

# the chronicle

## BIDDERS BOX CLEVER AT CHARITY AUCTION

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## RESTAURANT TAKES TOP AWARD AGAIN

– see page 25



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## Cash-cut throws switch on festival of light

THE future of a popular waterways festival that attracts more than 12,000 people to a Brierley Hill canal has been thrown into doubt after this year's event was scrapped.

Bosses at Dudley Council admitted that they had cancelled the annual Festival of Water and Light, which has been held at The Waterfront, for the past 12 years, as funding was increasingly difficult to find.

Disappointed boating fans who stage a parade along the canal as part of the evening rallied together and seven boats staged their own mini celebration at the canal last Saturday. Council leader Les Jones said they were working to find a way forward for the music festival, which also features fireworks, dance groups and a fun fair.

### Harder

"The agreement the council had with a private event management company came to an end following last year's festival," he said.

The event had been cost-neutral for many years through private sponsorship but this was becoming harder to secure. He said a private company had shown interest and is discussing with the council on taking over running of the event.

Paddy Grice, who is director of the Black Country Boating Festival, said boaters had become concerned when he was unable to find out any information about this year's event.

He rallied other enthusiasts, including members of Dudley Canal Trust and Birmingham Canal Navigations Society, to stage a replacement event over the past weekend.

Decision due on transformation of grounds with 14 houses

# MANOR HOMES PLAN BACKED

**P**LANNING officers have backed a scheme to transform the grounds of the 18th century Wordsley Manor. But more than 100 residents are objecting to the project at the Grade II listed building.

A final decision on whether to grant planning permission will be taken by Dudley Council's development control committee next week.

Fourteen homes would be built on land around the house, off Meadowfields Close, under proposals.

The scheme has faced stiff opposition from conservation body Natural England which said rare slow worms and bat roosting sites could be at risk from the plans.

## Getting tough on fraud

COUNCIL workers suspected of stealing or misusing resources or outside groups which falsely obtain contracts or grants are being targeted by a new fraud-busting scheme.

Dudley Council has launched a hotline and website so people and workers can blow the whistle on staff or groups they believe are wrongly using the authority's cash and equipment. Bosses from the council said it was committed to ensuring money and resources were used for the intended purpose – to meet the needs of people in the borough.

Both residents and council staff will be able to report any suspicion of fraud which will then be investigated by a specialist team.

Developer Selbourne Homes, which has been working on the scheme for five years, has drawn up a new mitigation plan aimed at protecting wildlife.

Residents' concerns include increased traffic in Meadowfields Close and the houses not being in keeping with the manor, which has been home to Christopher Firmstone's family for 160 years.

Mr Firmstone said parts of the house, dated back to 1757, are in a "dilapidated" state and it requires around £400,000 of renovations.

In a report to the committee, planning officers recommend the application for approval subject to conditions being met.

These include developer contributing more than £481,000 to help restore the manor and pay for other transport and infrastructure improvements close by.

The report said the development would deliver a number of benefits including the restoration and preservation of the listed building.

The canal towpath would also be improved.

"All bat species, including their resting places and all slow worms are protected under legislation," the report said.

Twelve letters of objection and a petition of 106 signatures have been handed to the committee ahead of the meeting due next Tuesday.

## Ian runs into top volunteer award



Ian Clarke with his Regional Volunteer of the Year Award

AN ATHLETICS enthusiast from Stourbridge has crossed the line first to win a volunteer of the year award.

Ian Clarke, aged 57, has been involved with Stourbridge Running Club since 1991 and in recognition of his service was named as the top volunteer for the West Midlands by England Athletics.

He will now go on to compete against athletics volunteers from around the country for the accolade of national volunteer of the year at a ceremony in Birmingham later this month.

"I'm very proud and honoured," Mr Clarke, of Forge Road, said. "It makes all the time you spend volunteering worthwhile."

"I'm not in it for the recognition but it's very pleasing to know that other people in the region feel I'm worthy of the award."

### Mentor

Mr Clarke, a strong runner whose best marathon time was 2hr 40 min, has given up his time to mentor club members and helped increase female membership from five to 65.

He was nominated by his wife Joan, and running club member Zoe Yeomans.

The nomination read: "His willingness and enthusiasm to support and encourage others and to undertake different tasks has been felt and appreciated by so many in the running community."

"We feel this award would be deserved to recognise what he has achieved and his service to volunteering in the sport."

The England National Awards & Hall of Fame Evening takes place at the Hilton Metropole, NEC Birmingham, on Saturday October 22.

## Campaign starts for £5m glass museum

A MAJOR fundraising drive is being launched to help get plans for a £5 million glass museum in Wordsley off the ground.

There were fears for the development at the former Stuart Crystal site after one of the Grade II listed buildings was gutted in an arson attack this year.

But The British Glass Foundation, the charity behind the plans, said it is determined to make "dreams become a reality".

And it hopes to raise hundreds of thousands of pounds in the coming months.

The development will rely on grants but the charity wants to raise cash in case any applications are not successful.

A website is being set up where people can make donations and events will be planned across the Black Country.

The foundation has won the backing of national group The Glass Association since it launched in November 2010 to help steer the plans for a new museum.

### Meetings

Members said they remained committed to working with Dudley Council and the site owners, Complex Developments, to bring the project to fruition.

Chairman Graham Knowles said the museum would be "a world class facility to secure the future of Dudley's glass collections".

"There will be a major fund-raising drive in the future to enable our dreams to become a reality," he said.

Mr Knowles added: "There have been developments with Dudley Council where meetings are being held on a quarterly basis at the highest level."

"We are liaising closely with the council and the developers and have had an input into the grant application."

Work to repair the damage caused in the May arson attack has yet to start due to delays over an insurance claim.

Complex is planning to make a bid for European and Heritage Lottery funding early next year but have so far refused to reveal any figures.

Director David Freer said: "The process is grinding slowly forward."

### Throwing

"My original timescale after the fire was weeks but it has taken longer than expected to pursue the claim with the insurers. I want to get the building secure before the winter sets in and snow and ice starts causing damage."

There were fears the building would have to be demolished, throwing the scheme into doubt, but engineers decided that the main structure could be saved.

Since the blaze there have been a number of vandalism attacks, including a fire in one of the other six units on the site.

Under the plans, the six listed buildings on the Stuart Crystal site would be transformed into a glass museum with an underground link to the Red House Glass Centre.

## Call over loo closures

THE closure of public toilets in Dudley should be reconsidered, a meeting has heard. Eight toilet blocks were closed across the borough earlier this year in an attempt to save £150,000. But a meeting of Central Dudley Area Committee was told it was proving a problem for residents and there were also worries it was putting people off heading into the town centre. Councillor Kurshid Ahmed said: "It needs to be reconsidered."

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## thechronicle

## Financial target of £500,000 is missed by hospital trust

A HOSPITAL trust failed to meet its target of achieving a £500,000 cash surplus to reinvest in services as expenditure rose over the past year, new figures have revealed. Dudley Group of Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust spent £249.4 million over the past financial year up from £228.9 million in 2010/11.

And the trust had originally expected a surplus

of £500,000 in the coffers at the end of the financial year. Instead it achieved £275,000. This was down from £1.8 million the previous year.

Director of finance Paul Assinder told the annual members meeting it had been a challenging year for the trust with austerity measures at national level and freezing conditions last winter taking their toll.

He told the meeting, held at Dudley's Russells

Hospital, the trust had to act quickly to deal with higher patient figures over the winter months because of the severe weather.

He said 65 additional beds had been committed by the trust and locums brought in to ensure patients were treated to a high standard and efficiently.

"It has been a challenging year but we have achieved and in some cases exceeded all of the

major targets that we were set for the year," he said.

"We had originally expected to achieve a surplus of £500,000 for the last financial year and the final figure is less. However we knew that it was going to be a smaller figure than last year."

Mr Assinder said despite the challenging conditions the trust had still been able to spend £9m on improvements and new equipment.

## Jewellery thief given 20 months

A WINDOW fitter stole about \$5,000 worth of jewellery and other goods from homes in the Dudley area to pay his debts to loan sharks, a court heard.

Daniel Russell, aged 31, was jailed at Wolverhampton Crown Court for 20 months after he admitted two counts of burglary. He also asked for a further four burglaries to be taken into consideration.

Mr Howard Searle, prosecuting, said on Monday Russell, of Linsey Place, Brierley Hill would knock on the doors of targeted properties to check if anyone was at home before removing window frames to get inside. He said the stolen items included wedding rings.

"If there was no answer he would go to the back or side windows and forced them open by removing the beading and taking out the frames completely. He had been working as a window fitter prior to these offences," Mr Searle added.

He said on August 27 the defendant stole jewellery from a house in Coldstream Drive, Wordsley. But he was caught out soon after when he took whisky from a property in Brierley Hill Road. He also burgled homes in Kingswinford, Dudley and Cradley.

## Holiday fun

PETER Pan, Mary Poppins and Alice in Wonderland are among the classic Disney heroes taking to the big screen at Stourbridge Town Hall over the autumn half term. Between October 24 and 27, youngsters can while away the afternoons with matinee showings at 1.30pm. Tickets cost £3.

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## Last stage of restoration at church is now finished

THE latest stage of work on the restoration of a 200-year-old Georgian church in the heart of Stourbridge has been completed.

But a fresh appeal for funding has been launched to help pay for other improvements at St Thomas's Church.

The current phase has taken three months to complete and scaffolding has started to be brought down inside after specialist workers finished on the Market Street church nave and columns.

The ceiling has been redecorated and plaster work completed after large cracks were found.

Similar works to the church tower have also been brought to a close.

## Repairs

More than £250,000 has already been raised to help pay for the project to restore the church.

The plan was devised around 2006 and cash was raised to kickstart major repairs to the roof.

Following the work, water damage was found to beams in the roof and the church gallery which has had to be tackled.

Church warden Wendy Hemming says everyone associated with St Thomas's is delighted with the work so far but there is still a way to go.

"We are thankful to everyone who has helped us raise money so far and to the organisations that gave us grants towards the work," she said.

She added the next priority is to restore the church chancel which is one of the main elements giving the build-



Church warden Wendy Hemming views work which has been carried out so far

ing its Grade I status. Works to overhaul the church organ, which was first installed in 1810, has also been earmarked by the congregation.

In June 2010, with assistance from the Leche Trust, the organ keyboards were replaced with the work being carried out by organ builder Paul Daly. Further work is needed to renew the piston capture system.



The restoration work gathers pace

English Heritage has given some funding towards the revamp of the church but a fresh cash injection of £150,000 is needed to complete the project.

The church congregation helped raise around £3,000 from its flower festival this summer. Ideas are now being discussed in order to dream up other money making ventures over the next 12 months.

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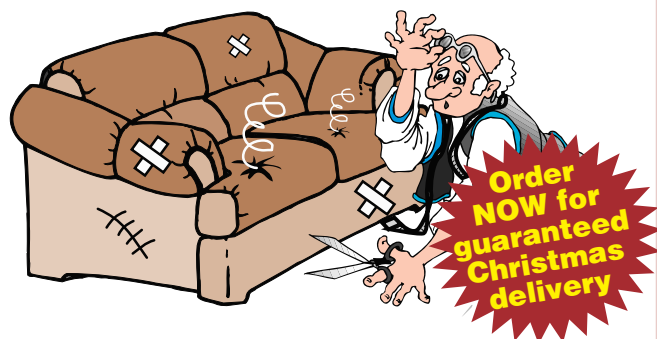
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# £10k of iPads go to NHS board members

THOUSANDS of pounds have been spent on iPads for NHS workers in Dudley, it has been revealed. The high-end devices made by Apple can cost up to £659 each.

Eighteen of the tablet computers have been bought by health organisations in Dudley and Walsall this year.

The cost of an individual iPad is between £399 and £659, depending on the model.

Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) confirmed this week it had spent around £10,000 on new technology including iPads, for each of its 15 board members, while Walsall Primary Care Trust has purchased three for its IT services.

Dr David Hegarty, chairman of the CCG, defended the purchases saying the iPads had "cost less" to buy than laptops.

He said the tablets would enable members to access NHS email accounts and read lengthy documents without having to print them.

Money for the devices came from a budget allocated by Dudley PCT for setting up the board of the new GP group and had not been diverted from patient care services, he said.

One worker at Dudley PCT, who did not wish to be named, hit out at the spending on iPads, saying: "I am completely disgusted by this when people are working so hard trying to keep on top of workloads as people are made redundant with no extra pay."

## Choir is on song to help



Members of Peters Hill School choir warm up for the show with Janet Jones from Mary Stevens Hospice

AN evening of laughter and song is on the cards as Black Country acts join together to help Mary Stevens Hospice on Saturday.

The bi-annual Voices for Hospices concert - entitled Black Country Showtime - will be held at Amblecote Christian Centre in Brettell Lane, Amblecote, in honour of World Hospice & Palliative Care Day.

Compered by local comedienne Marlene, the show will star some of

the region's finest talent including electro guitarist Brian Gregory, Esther Turner and Tom Hill.

The children's school choir from Peters Hill Primary School in Peters Hill Road, Amblecote, will be appearing.

Head of fundraising Janet Jones said: "Our Voices for Hospices concerts are always well-supported and with the calibre of artistes performing, it promises to be a huge success."

## Register office in town is set to close down

STOURBRIDGE Register Office will shut in the next few weeks to make way for the £50 million redevelopment of the Crown Centre which includes a new Tesco supermarket.

Bosses say they are looking at providing some services elsewhere in Stourbridge such as registering births to save people having to make a trip to Dudley.

Councillor Tim Wright, cabinet member for human resources, law and governance, said: "The register office building in Stourbridge is likely to close in the next month or so to make way for the much needed multi-million pound redevelopment of the Crown Centre. We are continuing to look into the viability of offering a registration service for births, deaths and marriages in the town but we have not yet finalised any arrangements on this."

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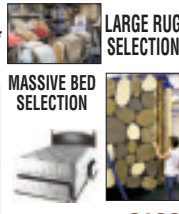


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## Golden couple raise a celebratory glass

A WORDSLEY couple celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in style – and have enough flowers to last them another 50 years.

Terry and Shirley Smith, of Marine Crescent, marked the special occasion with a party for more than 100 family and friends.

And next week the 69 year olds are sailing off to the Caribbean on a cruise to mark 50 years of wedded bliss.

Terry, who put their longevity down to trust, said they had been overwhelmed by the number of cards and gifts received.

"We've got so many flowers we could open a flower shop," he said.

"The party was fantastic and it was beautiful to have so many family and friends



there. Shirley will not spend any money on herself and I have never, in all the years of our marriage, given my wife any housekeeping."

The pair married at Halesowen Parish Church in 1951 and have two children, Stephen and David.



Cheers! Terry and Shirley Smith celebrate their golden wedding and cutting the cake on their wedding day

## Residential roads ban plan for lorries

PLANS to ban large lorries using residential roads in Wordsley and Kingswinford have been unveiled.

A series of orders stopping lorries over 7.5 tons using some roads has been launched by Dudley Council following residents' complaints.

Around 17 roads form part of the traffic order plan, which has been sent out to public consultation.

There are also plans to stop workers from nearby energy firm E.ON blocking residential roads during the day.

Ward councillor and cabinet member for transportation, Councillor Patrick Harley, said lorries were using roads like Cot Lane as a "rat run".

He said: "The roads were just not built for that kind of traffic and these

lorries should be staying on the main roads. I've been in residents' houses talking about the issue and three lorries have gone past trundling in just a few minutes."

He claimed some of the lorries come from a nearby quarry as well as others being used by haulage firms.

### Responses

"There have been a number of people already getting in touch about the plan and the responses are generally positive but we want more residents to get in touch either by email, telephone or letter," said Councillor Harley.

"We hope we have created a balanced plan which is out to consultation and we hope that it will met the

needs of residents." Residents have also raised concerns with the number of workers from E.ON parking up all day in roads. Six roads including Larch Road, Water Street and Ash Crescent in Kingswinford could have restricted waiting times introduced.

Double yellow lines banning parking could also be introduced on nine roads to ease congestion including Barnett Lane and The Village outside St Mary's Church, in Kingswinford.

A full list of the roads affected is on the traffic consultations database at [www.dudley.gov.uk](http://www.dudley.gov.uk) or at Dudley Council offices, in Mary Stevens Park, off Heath Lane, Stourbridge. A decision will be made in the next few weeks.

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# Jogger catches bag snatchers

A HAVE-a-go hero helped apprehend thieves after they stole a pensioner's handbag in Stourbridge. Father-of-three Michael Essom was on an eight-mile jog with his wife Sophie when he was involved in the drama.

The couple were running around the corner of Hagley Road and the ring road in the town centre when men ran past them laughing.

Moments later a member of the public started shouting to stop the men, telling them they had stolen an 84-year-old woman's handbag.

Mr Essom, aged 43, from Stourbridge, took off, running after the offenders as they made off across the ring road and up Church Street past The Old Crispin - dumping the bag on a wall as they ran.

He said: "You don't think about it really, it's just second nature."

"I thought I had to do something. It was the fact they were laughing that annoyed me."

## Shouting

Mr Essom chased after them, managing to grab one and pin them down outside Stourbridge Fire Station. A member helped him keep hold of the man. Police arrived and caught the second man.

"It was a real community effort with everyone shouting out telling me where to run," he said.

"It shows a good community spirit."

Mrs Essom stayed with the pensioner until police arrived and her husband said they would like to meet the woman again.

The drama happened at 10.30am on September 26, with the theft happening near the Chequers Inn. Three people aged 20, 21 and 37 were arrested and have been bailed.

Witnesses are asked to call the police on 0345 113 5000.



Have-a-go-hero Michael Essom, with wife Sophie, praised community spirit

## Local MP names firms for awards

THE MP for Stourbridge has nominated two local manufacturers for the Parliamentary Made by Britain awards.

Margot James said: "These awards recognise outstanding manufacturers and products. I am delighted to nominate Bird Stevens and Boro Foundry, two innovative and respected local businesses; together they draw attention to the high quality manufacturing which takes place in Stourbridge. I am very pleased that a large number of companies from the Black Country have been nominated."

Made by Britain was launched in July by the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills to celebrate leadership in British manufacturing. It is a collaboration between the parliamentary manufacturing group, and the 1851 Royal Commission.

## New service for shoppers

SHOPPERS in Stourbridge will be able to pick up John Lewis products along with their groceries with the launch of the store's Click and Collect service at Waitrose in the town.

Click and Collect provides shoppers with the opportunity to purchase from more than 170,000 products from johnlewis.com. Orders placed before 7pm can be collected from Waitrose after 2pm the next day.

Simon Russell, head of multi-channel, John Lewis said: "We're thrilled to be working with Waitrose to bring the Click and Collect service to Stourbridge shoppers."

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185/65R15 H	<b>£50</b>	Citroen Xantia, Mazda 626, Nissan Almera
205/55R16 V	<b>£59</b>	Ford Mondeo, Vauxhall Vectra, VW Passat, Audi A4
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thechronicle

## Crossing plan axed near deathtrap island

### Former marine turns to poetry



Stourbridge author Russell Hawkins, who has published the book *Sunrise to Avalon* containing his endings to two Samuel Taylor Coleridge poems

A FORMER Royal Marine from Stourbridge is preparing to publish his ending to an English poet's most famous works.

Russell Hawkins has worked on his ending to Samuel Taylor Coleridge's *Kubla Khan* and *The Dark Lady* over the past decade. The 46-year-old graduated from the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, in 1990, and served in Germany and Australia.

The keen martial artist eventually

joined the Royal Marine Reserve. The finished piece has been seen by the Lord William Coleridge, a descendant of the poet, who called Mr Hawkins' work "absolutely brilliant" in a statement for the book.

"I have always had the attitude of wanting to give something a go and try something new," he said.

Inspired by the works of Coleridge, Mr Hawkins has brought to together his poetry in a book entitled *Sunrise to Avalon*.

PLEAS for crossings to be set up on a stretch of road near a "deathtrap" island in the Black Country have been rejected by council chiefs, it has been revealed.

There were demands for pedestrian crossings to be installed in Cinder Bank, Dudley after a spate of accidents. Locals complain that drivers speed along the route after leaving the adjoining Dudley Southern Bypass, which was earlier this week named as one of the worst accident blackspots in the Black Country.

But Dudley Council has said the work cannot be carried out as there is already "too much street furniture" there.

A report by Dudley Council's highways team lays out reasons why crossings will not be considered near Swan Street and Simms Lane.

It says: "There is a large concentration of street furniture that would interfere with the visibility of both drivers and pedestrians. There are also side roads and vehicle accesses near which pedestrian crossings could not be sited."

"Accordingly, pedestrian crossing facilities for the section of Cinder Bank could not be considered further while the present circumstances remain."

### Bypass

Local resident Ian Flower, aged 46, said: "There are so many speeding cars around here, it is frightening and there seem to be accidents almost every week."

"The problems stem from drivers building up their speed on the bypass and at the roundabout then treating Cinder Bank like a racing track."

New data from the West Midlands Casualty Reduction Scheme revealed that in Dudley there were 508 crashes with four fatalities between June last year and this May. The Dudley Southern Bypass, also known as Duncan Edwards Way, ranked as the borough's worst blackspot, with 17 incidents. The figures also show that 18 people have died in crashes on routes throughout the Black Country between June last year.

Opposition leader Councillor David Spark said the roundabout at Cinder Bank was a "deathtrap" and called for traffic lights to be installed as a matter of urgency.

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thechronicle

## History made as famous glass vase is reborn

A Black Country glass-maker has made history by creating a perfect replica of one of the most important pieces of glassware ever created.

Expert Richard Golding has successfully created a blank of the historic Portland Vase at Stourbridge's Ruskin Glass Centre with the help of a specialist team.

They had to wait a nervous 12 hours for the pieces to cool in an oven before they knew if their work had been worth it.

The blank was created in front of an audience of glass enthusiasts and the finished article will celebrate 400 years of glassmaking in the town.

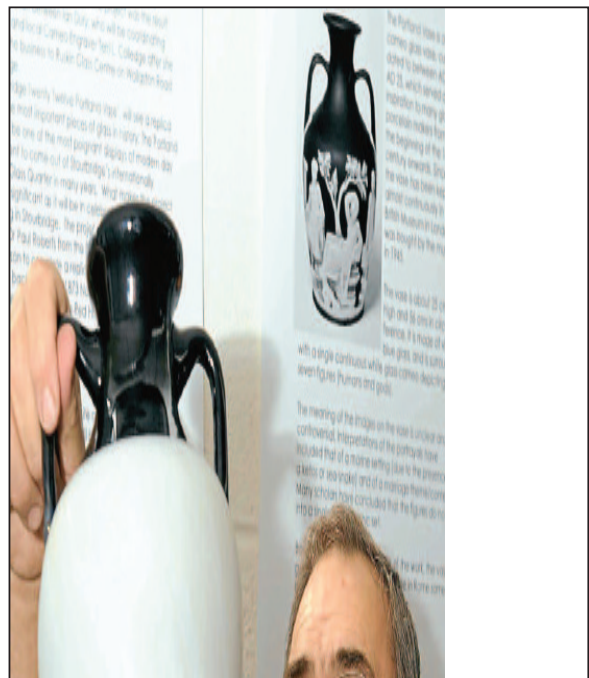
### Festival

The replica will now be painstakingly carved by cameo glass engraver Terri Colledge at the glass centre over the next 12 months.

It will be finished in time to be shown at the International Festival of Glass scheduled to be held in the town next August.

The original Portland Vase dates back to around 25AD and according to the British Museum in London is the most famous cameo-glass vessel from antiquity.

In attendance for the making of the replica was John Northwood III, great-grandson of the last person to complete a replica of the Portland Vase in Stourbridge back in 1874.



Ian Dury checks the progress of the Portland Vase copy at The Ruskin Glass Centre

## More gipsy children registered at schools

### Law gives Foodbank a boost



Louise Taylor, chair of George Green Charity Committee, left, and Wendy Fratt from Foodbank with members of staff

BLACK Country law firm George Green has presented local charity, Black Country Foodbank, with a much needed cheque for £1,100.

The Black Country Foodbank, which has distribution centres in Brierley Hill and Stourbridge, has received a lot of media coverage in recent weeks due to a 45 per cent increase in demand for its services compared with the same time last year.

The organisation, which was started in 2006, currently has eight distribution centres across the region, but

wants to open another two by the end of the year.

The aim of the Foodbank is to give three days of nutritionally-balanced food to people experiencing emotional or financial crisis.

Its running costs are £2,000 a month.

The Foodbank was chosen as the George Green charity in July 2010.

The partners and staff have been fundraising ever since through a variety of means including dress down days, sponsored walks and cake sales.

MORE than 200 gipsy and traveller children are now registered at schools in the Dudley borough as families opt to settle in the area, according to a new report.

The document has been drawn up by Dudley Council's children's services from information from the Gipsy, Roma and Travellers Service. There are 311 youngsters registered as living in the region with 113 attending 25 primary and three special schools in the area. A further 55 attend 16 secondary and one short-stay school and 45 are in pre-schools across the borough.

Of the remaining children registered 30 are home educated while six are not presently included on a school roll. Officers are working with these families, according to the report.

### Attendance

Others, a total of 62, are aged 16 to 19 years and are above school age.

The report says while gipsy, Roma and traveller attendance at schools in Dudley have improved over recent years, reflecting the national picture, it remains an ongoing issue.

And officers say while there are 311 children on the register the actual numbers living in the borough with their families is likely to be far higher. The report says schools are striving to improve attendance for youngsters of Gipsy, Roma or Traveller families by working with the service.

In Dudley, many families rarely travel and if they do it is for shorter periods linked to cultural or family events or for work opportunities.

Jane Porter, of children's services said: "There are still many challenges and we are working to support this section of the community."

## Beauty spot turbine project thrown out

CONTROVERSIAL plans to install wind turbines at Whittington, near Kiner Edge, have been thrown out at appeal.

Severn Trent Water had applied to install the 433ft high structures but a government planning inspector has upheld South Staffordshire Council's decision to reject the project, saying the turbines would be detrimental to the views.

Campaigners welcomed the news as the company admitted defeat and confirmed it would not be pursuing any more action at the Gibbet Lane site.

Brian Hartland, aged 64, who runs The Butchery in Kiner High Street, said: "This could have really ruined Kiner Edge."

Councillor Brian Cox, chairman of the council's regulatory committee, added: "The sheer size of developments like this could do irreversible damage to an area that boasts some of the most beautiful countryside and popular walking routes we have."

## Special event to help with sight loss

A SPECIAL event to raise the public's awareness about sight loss is due to be held at the Thomas Pocklington Trust's Stourbridge Resource Centre.

The World Sight Day event is, due to be held on October 14.

It has been organised in conjunction with Dudley Council and Dudley and Stourbridge Lions, will include demonstrations on guiding techniques, living aids and how eye conditions affect people's lives in different ways. People are invited to turn up to the centre at the Mary Stevens Hospice complex in Hagley Road, Stourbridge, between 11am and 2pm.

The centre's development manager Ann Evett spoke about the event and said: "I'm delighted the centre is working in partnership with the Dudley and Stourbridge Lions in such a positive manner to raise awareness of the avoidable effects that sight loss has on so many people worldwide."



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## Date is set for hospital man's deportation

AN illegal immigrant who has spent more than a year at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital is scheduled to be deported next month, an MP has revealed.

The man, who has not been identified, is expected to be flown back to his native Pakistan on October 11, according to Stourbridge MP Margot James.

Miss James said it was a provisional date which had been set following discussions between the Home Office and

UK Border Agency, and she pledged the situation would continue to be closely monitored over the coming days until the deportation had taken place.

The man was originally transferred to Russells Hall Hospital on July 1 last year after receiving treatment at the Royal London Hospital in the April.

He had suffered a heart attack and hypoxic brain injury.

Although declared medically fit for discharge last August, the hospital

could not release him as the immigration removal centres could not provide the continuing care he needed. It emerged he had entered the UK on a visit visa which had expired on September 5, 2007.

Miss James added: "From what I have been told a date has now been earmarked for his deportation to take place. This is for October 11."

The man's care has so far cost the hospital more than £100,000.

## Bidders box clever at charity auction

CHILDREN in Peru will have new kindergarten facilities thanks to a big hit Dudley auction raising more than £1,500.

The event, organised by cleaning firm ServiceMaster, lived up to its billing with boxing gloves signed by 'Smokin' Joe Frazier and Joe Calzaghe proving the star attraction as the company raised money for former Kinver schoolteacher Margaret Saunderson, now working in the shanty towns of Lima, as part of joint 30th anniversary celebrations.

Excitement mounted on Friday when a written bid for the gloves arrived in the morning post just as the auction was getting started under the hammer of Pedmore-based church minister Peter Jenkins.

### Tremendous

Frantic behind the scenes checks were made to authenticate the bid from boxing fan Melvyn Harper, of Coseley, who was delighted to receive a call later that his £120 bid had won.

ServiceMaster director Hugh Shephard-Walwyn said: "It all added to a tremendous day; we couldn't have asked for anything better as even the weather was in our favour."

"The gloves were donated by one of our customers who'd paid a lot more for them at another charity event."

"But he obviously isn't a big boxing fan as initially he couldn't even remember who they were signed by."



Margaret Saunderson with youngster Margarita in Peru

"It's great they've gone to an appreciative home and even better to think that young lives from the other side of the world will be impacted by everyone's efforts."

Exactly £1,000 in bids was taken on the day, but at least half as much again is being added through donations in time for the actual anniversary next month.

Miss Saunderson, aged 60, said: "It's absolutely wonderful. I really appreciate all the effort that has gone into this fundraising. It's exciting to think that the company's 30-year

anniversary coincides with my 30th anniversary in Peru."

"The money will be very useful as there's a bit more building work needed on our kindergarten to complete the project."

"We have three classrooms and 50 children between the ages of two and five, so this new funding will enable us to complete the project and benefit many poor children."

Donations are still welcome by contacting ServiceMaster on 01384 457243 or email [dudley@servicemasterclean.co.uk](mailto:dudley@servicemasterclean.co.uk)

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This covers everything listed in Band 1 above, plus any further treatments such as fillings, root canal work on your dentist needs to take out one or more of your teeth.

### Band 3 Course of Treatment - £204.00

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### How to join the Practice

Joining the practice is really easy, all you have to do is call reception or come in and speak to one of our Receptionists. They will take some details from you and book your first appointment. Please do not be afraid to ask for a specific dentist and also mention if there is anything in particular you are interested in having information about.

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Tuesday.....8.30 to 6.00	Friday.....8.30 to 6.00
Wednesday.....8.30 to 6.00	Saturday.....8.30 to 12.30

Reception is open during the lunch hour for general enquiries.

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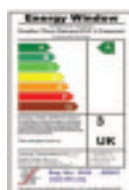
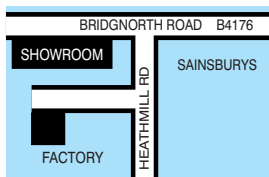
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# Fears as numbers of region's care home beds are reduced



Amateur dancing champion Lou Thomas in a glamorous Ginger Rogers style white dress

## Strictly medal win for dancing Lou

MOVE over Nancy Dell'Olio, Edwina Currie and Lulu – and enter Stourbridge's own version of the "older woman" amateur dance champion. As the trio of older competitors started competing in Strictly Come Dancing, Lou Thomas, aged 59, has just clinched two titles.

Lou, a Zumba teacher and public relations consultant, of Birches Barn Lane, on the border of Kinver and Wolverley, near Stourbridge, waltzed away with the Associated Board of Dance gold medal 'over 35s' title for ballroom dancing in a competition held at Birmingham's Holiday Inn.

She also won the 'over 35s' bronze medal category for Latin American dancing, along with her dance partner and teacher, Kevin Allcott, from Derby.

### Disappointing

Lou, who was wearing a glamorous white Ginger Rogers style dress specially made for her, said: "There were five pairs in the Latin American final but I have to confess we were the only ones in the ballroom category. We still had to dance, even though we were the only pair in the final."

Lou, who teaches Zumba at Haybridge High School, Hagley, and Wolverley Secondary School, added: "It's disappointing that not many older people are taking part in these competitions. But hopefully Nancy Dell'Olio, Lulu and Edwina Currie competing in Strictly will encourage them."

## Trustees join glass charity

TWO new trustees have been appointed to the British Glass Foundation – the charity set up to help safeguard the future of Dudley's glass collection.

Graham Fisher MBE and Allister Malcolm have been appointed into their role. Mr Fisher is a keen waterways and glass expert and also well known as an author and radio presenter on 102.5 FM The Bridge Radio. He will be heading up the PR for the organisation.

Mr Malcolm is the resident glass artist at Broadfield House Glass Museum. His work is well established in the UK and USA.

Graham Knowles, of the charity, said the trustees, were delighted.

## Cats on show for rehoming

THE Stourbridge and District Branch of Cats Protection is organising its next homing show to show off some of the cats and kittens in its care that are looking for new homes.

The event is being held at Kinver Methodist Church Hall, Enville Road, Kinver on Saturday from noon until 2pm.

Branch co-ordinator Rob Hall said: "Our homing shows are always popular events."

"If anyone is interested in adopting a cat or kitten from us then it's a great way to meet some of the lovely felines that we're currently looking after."

Admission is 50p and there will be free refreshments.

CONCERNS have been raised over the falling number of care home beds in Dudley – as the council plans to close the remaining homes it runs.

Hilary Walker, director of quality at NHS Dudley, said the borough had lost 50 beds recently months. She said she had met council bosses to raise concerns over whether the area's facilities will be able to cope in the future.

Westfield Lodge, Stourbridge, Grange Park, Himley Road, Dudley and Alexandra House, Pensnett High Street, have shut in the past 18 months. And the last remaining council-run homes are set to close

down within the next three years.

Mrs Walker said: "I have had a number of meetings with Dudley Council to raise my concerns about the reduction in care beds in the area."

"The authority is responsible for the overall strategy with care homes and obviously is pursuing plans to close council-run homes down." She added that NHS Dudley commissioning manager Jenny Cale was "considering options to ensure both intermediate and continuing healthcare".

The council is looking to close New Bradley Hall in Kingswinford, New Bradley House, Coseley and New Swinford Hall, Stourbridge. It has said the plans are part of efforts to keep elderly

people independent for longer. Meanwhile the authority continues with plans for five extra care housing schemes which will provide 600 flats. Work has started on two of the schemes, at Russells Hall and Coseley. The £16million Russells Hall scheme will have 132 apartments for the over-55s, while the Coseley scheme is an £8m project made up of 72 apartments.

Councillor Lesley Faulkner, cabinet member for adult and community services said: "I am confident we are directing our finite resources at the areas of service that will make the greatest impact on helping people to live in homes of their choice in safe and active communities."

## Arts sessions to run at museums

CLAY sculpture workshops, bead-making, glass-fusing sessions and French conversation classes are among a packed programme of activities at museums across Dudley this month.

Throughout October, people will be able to try their hand at a host of different tasks and pick up a new skill or two, plus take part in a series of walks as part of the Full of Life scheme.

Every Monday and Thursday, bead-making taster sessions will be held at the Red House Glass Cone with resident lamp work glass artist Sarah Jones.

Also on Thursdays at the Cone, studio owner Sarah

Cannings will be running Sensational Ceramics sessions between 10am and 4pm.

On Wednesday, walkers will be able to learn about the area's glass-making history during a three-mile canal-side stroll starting at the Bonded Warehouse in Canal Street, Stourbridge.

### Chance

And there will be a chance for people to get their hands dirty with a dry clay session at the Broadfield House Glass Museum in Compton Drive, Kingswinford, on October 13.

For the full programme and to see prices visit: [www.dudley.gov.uk](http://www.dudley.gov.uk)

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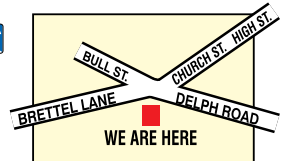
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# What's New @ Learning4Life

## Autumn 2011

ADULT EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LEISURE

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ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### FRENCH

Beginners: Mondays 19.00-20.30. Improvers: Tuesdays 19.00-20.30. Check availability with reception.

### INTRO TO SIGN LANGUAGE

Mon. 31st Oct. 19.00-21.00, 6 wks. £30.60 #

### CREATIVE WRITING

Mon. 14th Nov. 19.00-21.00, 5 wks. £25.50 #

### PLAY THE GUITAR

Beginners: Thurs 3rd Nov. 20.00-21.00, 5 wks. £18.00 #  
Improvers: Tuesdays 19.00-21.00, Intermediates: Mondays 19.00-21.00. Check availability with reception.

### DRAWING FOR BEGINNERS

Mon 28th Nov. 14.00-16.00, 3 wks. £21.60 #

### WATERCOLOUR PAINTING FOR BEGINNERS

Mon 7th Nov. 14.00-16.00, 3 wks. £21.60 #

### PAINTING and DRAWING

Classes suited for all levels take place on Tuesdays 19.00-21.00 Wednesdays 10.00-12.00, Thursdays 10.00-12.30, and Thursdays 13.30-15.30. Check availability with reception.

### JEWELLERY MAKING

Beginners: Tues. 1st Nov. 10.00-12.00, 3 wks £21.60 #

### WIRE WRAPPED JEWELLERY MAKING

Improvers: Tues 22nd Nov. 9.30-12.30, 3 wks £22.95 #

### FACE PAINTING and GLITTER TATTOOS

Mon 31st Oct. 19.00-21.00, 3 wks. £24.60 #

### FOLK ART

Mon 31st Oct. 19.00-21.00. OR Tues 22nd Nov. 13.30-15.30. Both 3 wks. £21.60 #

### CANAL ART

Tues 1st Nov 13.30-15.30 OR Mon 21st Nov. 19.00-21.00. Both 3 wks. £21.60 #

### INTRO TO FLOWER ARRANGING

Mon 31st Oct. 10.00-12.00 OR Thurs 24th Nov. 19.00-21.00. Both 3 Wks. £25.60 Cons. £20.20 and £9

### INTRO TO FLORISTRY

Thurs 3rd Nov. 19.00-21.00 OR Mon. 21st Nov. 10.00-12.00. Both 3 Wks. £25.60 Cons. £20.20 and £9

### SOFT FURNISHING

Fri 11th Nov. 10.00-12.00, 6 wks. £30.60 #

### PATCHWORK FOR BEGINNERS

Tues 8th Nov. 19.00-21.00, 3 wks. £21.60 #

### EMERGENCY FIRST AID

Fri. 4th Nov. 09.00-16.00, 1 day. £36.50

### PAEDIATRIC EMERGENCY FIRST AID

Sat 19th Nov. 09.00-13.00, 1 session. £24.30

### ADULT SWIMMING LESSONS

Check availability with reception. Mondays 19.00-19.45, Improvers and Intermediates Mondays 19.45-20.30, Beginners and Intermediates. Mondays 20.30-21.15, Beginners and Improvers

### PRIVATE SWIMMING LESSONS

In a group of 2 or 1 to 1. Contact the office for further details

### RLSS NATIONAL POOL LIFEGUARD

24th Oct 2011, 13th Feb 2012, 10th Apr 2012, 23rd OR 30th July 2012. All 8.30-17.00, 6 days. £172 plus additional fees £78.75

### RLSS NATIONAL RESCUE TEST for SWIMMING

TEACHERS/COACHES Thurs 29th and Fri 30th Mar. 8.30-16.00, £57.20, add. fees £26.95. 1 day retake subject to previous qualification and training Fri 30th Mar. £36.50, add. fees £26.95

### TAP DANCE

Mon 31st Oct. 19.00-20.00, 6 wks. £21.60 #

### CONTEMPORARY DANCE

Mon 31st Oct. 20.00-21.00, £21.60 #

## COMMUNITY SESSIONS

### ADULT SWIMMING

Mon.	12.40-13.25	£2.60
Thurs.	19.00-20.15	£2.60

### AQUAFIT

Wed.	12.40-13.25	£2.60
Wed.	19.00-20.00	£3.70
Fri.	12.40-13.25	£2.60
Sun.	9.00-10.00	£3.70

### FITNESS SWIMMING for 10-19

Mon.	18.00-18.45	£1.60
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### START YOUR OWN BUSINESS

6 wks. £30.60 # Contact the office for further details

### AN INTRODUCTION TO TRADING ON THE STOCK MARKET

Thurs 24th Nov. 19.00-21.00, 3 wks £21.60 #

### LEGS, BUMS and TUMS

Tuesdays 20.05-21.05. Check availability with reception.

### PILATES

Beginners: Tuesdays 19.00-20.00, Wednesdays 18.00-19.00, Thursdays 18.00-19.00 and Beginners@Oakfield Fridays 10.00-11.00, Improvers Thursdays 19.05-20.05 and 20.10-21.10. Check availability with reception

### YOGA

Wed 2nd Nov. 19.15-20.45, 6 wks. £37.20

### TAE KWON-DO

Thurs 3rd Nov. 20.10-21.10, 6 wks. £21.60 #

### HAIR STYLING AN INTRODUCTION

Tues 1st Nov. 18.00-20.00 OR Wed 2nd Nov. 13.30-15.30. Both 3 wks. £21.60 #

### MAKE UP: JUST LIKE A PROFESSIONAL

Tues 22nd Nov. 18.00-20.00 OR Wed 23rd Nov. 13.30-15.30. Both 3 wks. £21.60 #

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### ONLINE BASICS

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Fridays 11.30-13.30 5 wks. Starts 14th Oct  
Tues-Fri. 4 days 13.00-15.30 Starts 25th Oct.  
Thursdays 12.30-14.30 5 wks. Starts 3rd Nov.

### COMPUTING for the TERRIFIED

Learn to use a computer from scratch! Fri 25th Nov. 9.15-11.15. 4 wks. £39.60 #

### COMPUTERS: WORD PROCESSING

Fri 14th Oct. 11.30-13.30, 6 wks. £43.20 #

### INTRO TO FAMILY HISTORY

Mon 9th Jan 2012 13.30-15.30 5 wks. £36.00 #

### CONTINUING FAMILY HISTORY

Mon 31st Oct 13.30-15.30 5 wks. £36.00 #

### INTRO. TO DIGITAL IMAGING USING PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS

Tues. 1st Nov. 13.30-15.30, 5 wks. £49.50 #

### CONT. DIGITAL IMAGING USING PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS

Mon 31st Oct. 10.00-12.00, 5 wks. £49.50 #

### BUYING and SELLING ON E-BAY

Thurs 3rd Nov. 19.00-21.00 OR Fri 4th Nov. 9.15-11.15. Both 3 wks. £21.60 #

### CREATE YOUR OWN WEBSITE

Wed 2nd Nov. 10.00-12.00, 7 wks. £50.40 #

### DREAMWEAVER CS3 ESSENTIALS

Mon 31st Oct. 19.00-21.30, 7 wks. £63.00 #

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Mon 31st Oct. 16.45-17.45, Level One. 6 wks. £51.90

Thurs 3rd Nov. 17.45-18.45 Level Three. 6 wks. £26.10



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#### Intermediate 3.

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David Thomas, former Kinver Secondary Modern teacher Theo Gaskin and current headmaster Chris Rogers

## Fond memories at old school reunion

FORMER pupils of a Kinver school got the chance to exchange memories about life in the classroom at a reunion organised for them.

More than 50 people who went to Kinver Secondary Modern School, which is now called Edgecliff High School, attended a get-together at the Envile Road school.

Among them was Muriel Crump, aged 74, from Bobbington, who was one of the school's first pupils when it opened in 1951.

Little did she know then that she would go on to marry another pupil at the school – a boy called David whom she started courting after she left.

"I did not really know David that well at the time," she said.

"You didn't think about going out with boys at the age of 13 or 14 in those days."

"I do remember it being a good school though. I remember playing netball and going on school trips."

The grandmother-of-four added: "It has been great to see everyone again. You don't realise who they are until you hear their names."

### Familiar

Another pupil who started at the school in 1951, grandfather-of-two Howard Jones, 75, of Jenks Road in Wombourne, said: "It was a good school."

"We had a good canteen that served decent food – fish and chips sometimes and other times we got a proper cooked dinner with vegetables."

"The teachers were quite strict. If you did anything wrong you knew about it. But they were okay with me, I was not naughty."

The reunion was aimed at people who attended the school in 1951 but it was also attended by Theo Gaskin, a former deputy head in the 1980s.

"It's really nice to be back here and to see some familiar faces," said the 87-year-old father-of-two from Hyde Street in Kinver.

David Thomas, of Wordsley, organised the reunion. He said: "I am so pleased. Everyone has really enjoyed it."

"Most of the people here have not seen one another for 50 years, so it has been very emotional."



Howard Jones, of Wombourne, with a picture of himself in the school play



Stella Piper (now Turner), aged 73, from Kingswinford, and Shirley Pratley, 73, from London, sharing fond memories from an old school photograph



Ted Greenway, from Wombourne, David Crump and David Thomas, from Wordsley, and the football team



Muriel and David Crump, from Bobbington, who both went to Kinver Secondary Modern and later married



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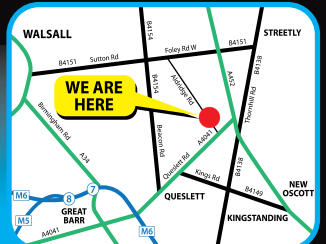
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thechronicle

# Rosemary's honour for her wildlife work

A BBC radio presenter from Stourbridge will award a wildlife medal to a dedicated Kidderminster conservationist.

Radio 4 broadcaster Brett Westwood will guest speak at Worcestershire Wildlife Trust's annual meeting next Wednesday.

He will also present the trust's yearly accolade to Rosemary Winnall, whose efforts as the driving force of the Wyre Forest study group have won her the huge recognition.

Rosemary, who was education manager with the Forestry Commission, has been credited as going above and beyond with her contributions to the conservation of wildlife across the country.

She is also heavily involved with the Grow with Wyre project and an array of biological recording groups.

"I am really thrilled to have won the award, it was such a surprise and a great privilege for me. I am very much looking forward to the presentation with Brett next week," she said.

### Interest

"I would like to give credit to all my colleagues and those at the Wyre Forest study group for their assistance and hard work."

"Wyre Forest is such a valuable habitat and it is crucial we know what wildlife is there in order to protect it; we always welcome new members to come and help us."

Brett, whose talk is entitled natural influences, works as a presenter and producer of BBC natural history programmes and Radio 4's saving species and nature and also contributes to the BBC wildlife magazine.

"Since I was six people have fuelled my interest in wildlife including some of the finest naturalists around; many of them Worcestershire-based," he said.

Seven other volunteers will be presented awards for their outstanding service to the trust. The meeting, open to members only, takes place at Lower Smite Farm, at 7.30pm.

### Diary date for donors

AN APPEAL has gone out for volunteers to attend blood donor sessions at Trinity Methodist Church, Churchfields, Kidderminster, next Friday, October 14. The times are 1.15pm to 3.30pm and 4.30pm to 7.15pm. People are recommended to telephone 0300 123 2323 to book an appointment.

## Fine draw for cartoonist



Jules Buss as he sees himself

A CARTOONIST from Cookley is set to make his television debut on a Channel Four reality show.

Jules Buss, who has been drawing for the past 11 years, was invited by a former client, taking part in Come Dine with Me, to draw her fellow contestants.

The client, who cannot be named until an air date is confirmed, surprised her guests with Jules and his



Jules Buss

caricatures on the last night of the dining experience, filmed at her home, last month.

Jules, aged 40, said: "You just can't buy this type of advertisement. Opportunities like this come very few and far between so it is a great buzz to know my drawings are going to be on television."

"The reaction from the dinner guests and the production crew was lovely and I am really grateful to have been given this wonderful chance."

It could be up to six months before the show is broadcast.



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# Police give their time for free to help out with the community

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BY DAY they have jobs in schools, hospitals and offices like thousands of others across the Midlands. But instead of relaxing in their spare time, these volunteers work as police officers.

Their role has become even greater in recent weeks as police resources were stretched during the riots across the area. Members of the Special Constabulary all give their services for free.

Most of them have full-time jobs, and have often already completed an eight-hour day before they turn their attentions to fighting crime.

West Midlands Police has 769 Specials, with 70 covering the Dudley borough from their base at Brierley Hill police station. And the Dudley team, led by James Horton, played a vital role in supporting the force during the recent riots, with 50 officers clocking up 722 hours in just seven days.

Mr Horton, aged 33, has worked his way up through the ranks for 12 years to become head of Dudley Special Constabulary. During the week of riots he was working 12-hour shifts to fill in for "regular" officers that were busy dealing with disorder in Birmingham, Wolverhampton and West Bromwich.

### Amazed

He said it was "all hands on deck" with volunteers working around the clock to make sure enough officers were on duty in Dudley.

Mr Horton says: "I never cease to be amazed by the dedication and commitment of our special constables, who turn out for duty throughout the week, often after a hard day's work."

"I'm extremely proud to lead a dedicated team of professional volunteers who consistently produce such excellent results."

There were 28 specials drafted in on the evening of August 8 when riots broke out in Birmingham and four specials worked through the night in Brierley Hill and Stourbridge.

Section officer Stuart Pearson, who has been a volunteer with the force for 12 years, worked from 4pm to 2am.

Occupations among specials include a supermarket store manager, a senior nurse at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital, a senior manager for NPower and a landscape gardener.

They are all required to work a minimum of four hours a week, but most do many more than that.

Mr Horton admits that the demand on the volunteers is likely to increase as the force sheds 2,000 jobs. He says people often ask why his officers are so willing to work for nothing when others get paid for the same job.



Simon Bousfield and James Cashmore, both qualified drivers for the specials, with one of the police vans at Brierley Hill Police Station

"My response is always the same, we want to help the community."

"It is not always a case of someone having ambitions of a career in the police, many would not want to give up their other jobs and work here full-time."

Superintendent Stuart Johnson, head of policing for Dudley, says: "The Special Constabulary is an integral part of the police team at Dudley and I recognise that we

have an outstanding group of officers. It is to their immense credit that operationally, I do not distinguish them from their regular colleagues and they play a full and active part in the delivery of local policing across the borough."

"Without doubt, our communities benefit from having such exceptional volunteer police officers working in their neighbourhoods."



On the beat - head of Dudley Special Constables James Horton and Special Olivia Quinney



Ross Butler chats to shoppers while on patrol on the high street

### Rebecca Pountney

WHEN Rebecca Pountney announced to her friends and family she was going to become a volunteer police officer, they were understandably worried.

The 27-year-old works as a train delay attributor, investigating the reasons for train delays on Network Rail.

And she was inspired to join the Special Constabulary by a desire to help the community, she says.

Miss Pountney, who lives with her partner in Halesowen, has volunteered for the police for six years and works four to eight hours a week in the evenings.

She says: "My friends were all quite worried at first but then they realised that the job I would be doing would be helping other people."

"It's a chance to see different walks of life and you never what is going to happen each time you come on shift."

Miss Pountney has worked her way up to section officer and acts as a supervisor.



Rebecca Pountney, of Halesowen

### Andrew Fisher

ANDREW FISHER works with children every day in his job as an inclusion manager at Ellowes Hall Sports College in Lower Gornal. So he says volunteering for the police - in particular tackling anti-social behaviour - seemed a natural progression.

His job at the school sees him work with students on behavioural issues and to improve their social skills.

He applied to become a special after seeing an advert on the internet and said it had always been his ambition to join the police.

And he admits he would consider taking up a paid role in the police if the opportunity arose.

Mr Fisher, aged 25, of Netherton, who has a psychology degree, believes his experience from dealing with youngsters helps when they encounter gangs of youths on patrol in the evenings.

During the school summer holiday he has been working 12-hour shifts for the police.



Andrew Fisher, of Netherton



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thechronicle

# Car park fees on way in Merry Hill scheme

## First steps to a lifelong love

MULTI-MILLION pound expansion plans have been unveiled for Dudley's Merry Hill Shopping Centre – and could see the introduction of charges for parking in as little as two years.

Bosses have revealed they had started working towards drawing up plans to include new shops, leisure facilities and houses. Centre manager Lucas Ross said parking charges were a formal requirement of expansion.

"The expansion might not be immediate but it's something we are currently working towards," he said.

"It's a very complicated process – we will need to get plans drawn up, have planning permission approved and get businesses interested in moving in before we could go ahead. A requirement of the expansion is that we need to start charging for car parking."

### Building

Centre owners Westfield began working on plans as soon as Dudley Council approved the Brierley Hill Area Action Plan in August, he said.

But he could not confirm whether previous plans for charges – which would have seen shoppers paying 50p for an hour, rising to £3.50 for five hours with £1.50 increments for each additional hour – would be revisited.

The Action Plan states the new areas would be built on under-used land surrounding the centre and hopes to create better connections with the High Street.

According to the plan, around 895,557sq ft of new retail space – including a new "anchor" store – would be created by expanding the centre towards the canal, along with almost 70,000sq ft of office space and 1,350 new homes.

### Societies in village

DEMONSTRATIONS and activities showing the societies and clubs on offer in Amblecote will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Vicarage Road, on Saturday between 10.30am and 1.30pm.



Jean and Joseph Bullock celebrating their diamond wedding anniversary and, right, their wedding day



ROMANCE blossomed for a couple when they waltzed into each other's lives after meeting at a regular dance.

Jean and Joseph Bullock, of Rectory Gardens, Oldswinford, celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary on September 29.

And to mark the happy occasion the couple were treated to a family meal.

The pair met at one of the regular dances held at the Old White Horse pub, in South Road, Norton, which they both used to attend three times a week.

Their relationship started when Mr Bullock, then aged 23, asked his future wife, then 19, to dance.

### Worked

They were married at St Thomas's Church, in Stourbridge, on September 29 1951.

Mr and Mrs Bullock have four children – Andrew, Rosemary, Caroline and James – and six grandchildren.

Mrs Bullock worked as clerk for the old Stourbridge Borough Council for many years.

Mr Bullock was a carpenter for Hickman's in Brierley Hill.

Mrs Bullock, now 82, said the secret of a successful marriage was give and take. "I think that is the only thing to it along with working together," she said.

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Owner Noor Miah with his son Malik collecting their award from Chronicle advertising rep Christine Attfield

## Restaurant retains the Chronicle award

A BALTI restaurant in Oldswinford has bagged *The Chronicle's* restaurant of the year award for the second time.

Multi-award winning Balti Dilshad, of Hagley Road, previously won the title in 2009, and readers have once again voted them the best in town.

The family run business, which was also named Masterchef of the Year in 2010, has been trading in Stourbridge for more than 30 years.

Manager Malik Miah said: "It is excellent

that we have won this award again. We always strive to provide our best service and it is the efforts and dedications of the staff that make us stand out from the rest.

"Our customers are so loyal and it is wonderful to know they have voted us the best in the town, it is a real honour."

Malik's father and owner Noor Miah and the rest of the team are also waiting to find out if they have won this year's outstanding Midlands Restaurant award for the second consecutive year.

# Contamination found at new archives site



From left to right, Duncan Edwards' cousins Keith Edwards, Lawrence Brownhill, Reverend Canon Judith Oliver and John Edwards at St Francis Church, Dudley

## Exhibition memories of Duncan Edwards

FAMILY of Dudley's famous footballing son Duncan Edwards gathered for a new exhibition marking his 75th birthday.

Three of Edwards' cousins joined members of the public to see artwork devoted to the former Manchester United player.

Keith Edwards, aged 73, Lawrence Brownhill, 68, and 77-year-old John Edwards make bi-annual trips to mark his birthday on October 1 and also when he died on February 21, 1958, following the Munich air disaster.

St Francis Church, in Wrens Nest, which hosted his funeral and has two stained glass windows dedicated to his memory, held a weekend for his birthday.

Children from Priory Primary School, which Edwards used to attend,



Legend Duncan Edwards created a range of artwork as part of a school project.

There was a church service on Sunday.

Keith Edwards, who lives in Arley, said: "We try to come back to Dudley twice a year as a mark of respect."

POTENTIALLY dangerous ground gases and "significant" land contamination have been found at the site of a planned £6 million Dudley and Sandwell archives building.

Investigations have been launched at the former Royal Brierley Crystal site in Tipton Road, Dudley, after ground inspectors visited the site as part of the consultation into the new building, which would house the archives for both Sandwell and Dudley.

The plans have been earmarked for approval and will go before Dudley planners on October 11.

Planning chief Councillor Angus Adams said the discovery meant large-scale ground remediation work would have to be done before construction could begin.

"It would be a danger to health if the building was done on top of the ground as it is," he said. "It could be that contaminants from the old factories which used to be on the site have seeped into the soil. We just need to make sure everything is safe and sound before we get on with it."

He confirmed that there were no implications for the Black Country Living Museum, which is next door.

### Reveal

Work to demolish the old Royal Brierley Crystal building began earlier this month, and full investigations into the ground contamination will be carried out when the site has been fully cleared.

As well as housing Dudley's archives, part of the premises would be rented out to Sandwell Council for storage facilities. The archives are currently based at the former Mount Pleasant school in Colesey, which would be redeveloped for housing under the plans.

A report submitted to the planning committee states: "The Dudley archives are currently held in a former school building in Colesey. As such, it does not have the specialist equipment used to control the humidity and temperature needed for the storage of old documents."

## Hospice in support of national care week

MARY Stevens Hospice in Stourbridge is joining forces with other hospices across the country to launch the first ever Hospice Care Week.

Running from October 8 to 14, it is hoped the event will raise the public's awareness of hospice care and address some of the misconceptions that people may have about what hospice care really is.

Janet Jones, head of fundraising at Mary Stevens Hospice, said: "Hospice Care Week is an important opportunity to challenge the myths surrounding hospice care and show people that it is about living, not dying."

"Many people think that Mary Stevens Hospice only provides end of life care, but are often surprised to find out we also care for many more people in day care and through counselling and family support."

A concert is to be held on October 8 to celebrate Voices for Hospices at Ambleside Christian Centre, Stourbridge.

Tickets can be obtained from the fundraising office on 01384 377778 or via the website at [www.marystevenshospice.co.uk](http://www.marystevenshospice.co.uk)

## Council set to sell off buildings

INDEPENDENT valuations are being carried out on a number of council buildings in Dudley which are set to be put up for sale.

More than a third of local authority buildings deemed "unfit for purpose" are set to be put on the market.

The move is to happen over the next three years under plans unveiled by council bosses earlier this year. It is due to save an estimated £500,000 a year in running costs. But the change will mean a new way of working for staff. Some workers will have to share

desks in the remaining buildings. The authority will not reveal which of the council's 24 offices and 11 customer reception buildings have been earmarked for sale and said they do not yet know when the first building will go on the market.

But the council house in Ednam Road, along with the buildings in St James Road and Parsons Street, will not be among them.

Councillor Tim Wright, deputy leader of the council, said: "The council is working with the Limited

Liability Partnership (LLP) on establishing independent valuations of the sites.

"Work has yet to be done to establish their possible uses and no decision has been made in relation to when they might go to market."

The LLP is regeneration developer Dudley Public Sector Partnership which is 50 per cent owned by the council. Around a fifth of the council's £2.3 million property running costs is spent on maintaining buildings due to be sold off.

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<b>WEST BROMWICH</b>  <b>66 Margaret Street</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* End-terraced house</li> <li>* 2 double bedrooms</li> <li>* 2 reception rooms (with gas fires)</li> <li>* New fitted kitchen</li> <li>* New carpets</li> <li>* Gas central heating</li> <li>* Great location &amp; affordable rent</li> </ul> <b>Monthly rent of £465</b>	<b>HALESOWEN</b>  <b>Leasowe's Court 16 Red Leasowe's Road</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Open plan lounge/kitchen</li> <li>* Electric fire and surround, cooker and fridge</li> <li>* Double bedroom with 2 double wardrobes</li> <li>* Freshly decorated</li> <li>* Freshly cleaned carpets and new blinds</li> <li>* Drying area and allocated parking space</li> </ul> <b>Monthly rent of £400</b>	<b>STOURBRIDGE</b>  <b>Flat 1 17 Park Street</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Ground floor duplex-flat</li> <li>* 1 bedroom</li> <li>* Kitchen with oven &amp; fridge</li> <li>* Spacious accommodation</li> <li>* GCH &amp; UPVC windows</li> <li>* Enclosed private garden</li> <li>* Available now!</li> </ul> <b>Monthly rent of £395</b>	<b>CRADLEY HEATH</b>  <b>HADEN HILL AREA Flat 4 The Old Vicarage 439 Halesowen Road</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Self contained flat</li> <li>* one bedroom</li> <li>* upvc double glazed windows</li> <li>* shower over bath</li> <li>* electric heating</li> <li>* parking</li> </ul> <b>Monthly rent of £375</b>	<b>OLDBURY</b>  <b>Flat 3 Quayside Close</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Self contained ground floor flat</li> <li>* One bedroom</li> <li>* Double glazed windows</li> <li>* Open plan living room kitchen</li> <li>* Electric heating</li> <li>* Car space</li> <li>* Available from 1st October</li> </ul> <b>Monthly rent of £360</b>	<b>ROWLEY REGIS</b>  <b>72 Oldbury Road</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Shop with warehouse/storage area</li> <li>* Good-sized first floor offices</li> <li>* Main road position</li> <li>* Paved forecourt</li> <li>* 187.37 sq.m. (approx 2,016 sq.ft.)</li> <li>* Available now</li> </ul> <b>Annual rent Of £8,500</b>	<b>ROWLEY REGIS</b>  <b>Blackheath 27, 27a, 28 &amp; 28a High Street</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Retail/residential property investment in a High Street location comprising two lock up shops and a one bedroom and a bedsit flat.</li> </ul> <b>Offers in the region of £200,000</b>

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47 LYNWOOD DRIVE

£600 pcm

Modern semi-detached house ■ lounge with patio door to rear garden, kitchen with modern fitted units ■ two bedrooms, house bathroom inc shower ■ drive to frontage, front and rear gardens, c/h, d/g



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52 COLUMBUS AVENUE

£525 pcm

Exclusive penthouse apartment ■ lounge, kitchen recess with integrated appliances ■ two bedrooms, master with balcony area and en-suite shower ■ one designated parking space, c/h, d/g



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## BOOKS

## REVIEWS

## SHOWTIME ROUND-UP

## Legally Blonde, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

OMIGOD it's true, blondes do have more fun and this fantastic show proves it. And judging by the audience reaction to Legally Blonde at the New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham the verdict was – simply terrific.

The fun and enthusiasm of the cast was infectious. Yes, the storyline may be a bit cheesy, dippy blonde Elle Woods can handle anything, so when her boyfriend, Warner, dumps her she decides to follow him to Harvard Law School and win him back. With some

help from new-found friends Paulette, Emmett and her chihuahua Bruiser, she learns that it's so much better to be smart and she ends up winning back her ex-boyfriend but choosing to instead propose to the 'good guy' who helped her through law school.

The international award-winning hit has everything, great characters and the adorable little chihuahua Bruiser who got an aah whenever he appeared on stage – who said you shouldn't work with animals.

Legally Blonde The Musical is the winner of seven major awards including Best Musical 2011 (Olivier Awards) and it's easy to see why.

Twenty-four-year-old Faye Brookes who is in only her second major leading role is a confident Elle and her scenes alongside the more experienced Claire Sweeney, who plays the scatty hairdresser Paulette are hilarious. Legally Blonde continues at the New Alexandra until October 15.

SUE ATTWATER

Shang Hi  
Cirque du Ceil,  
Grand Theatre,

THIS colourful show tells the story of teenage girl Yan Yang and her mysterious journey of discovery.

Starting with film footage, which illustrates the journey from Wolverhampton to China on a globe, the audience are shown scenes of China and the story unfolds of how this young girl is taken from modern-day China to the past – with the power of spirits – to discover the magic realm of the Cirque.

All very easy when you know the story but a bit hard to follow on the night, but despite that there was no mistaking the ability of the performers who kept the audience spellbound for almost two hours.

They are taken with her on the journey, set within the bustling metropolis of Shanghai, to see jugglers, dancers, performers and acrobats who together help her realise her dream of becoming a circus performer.

The performances were quite spellbinding. There was the occasional slip-up when one young man dropped the hats he was juggling but he was determined to get it right and on his third attempt he did much to the delight of the crowd who cheered him on.

The traditional Chinese stunts with the aerial silks and 'monkey poles' were quite breathtaking.

SUE ATTWATER

## Journey's End, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

THE detailed set and unnervingly realistic sound effects, which hit you right from curtain opening, along with the crisp dialogue all combine to recreate the atmosphere of being in a British trench during World War One.

Journey's End, based on R.C. Sherriff's own war experiences, follows the lives and pressures of the major characters of Lieutenant Osborne, Private Mason, 2nd Lt Raleigh, Captain Stanhope and 2nd Lt Trotter in 1918 before a major German offensive.

Leader of the bunch Cpt Stanhope, Nick Hendrix, has a reputation for being a great

soldier but one on the edge who has learned to cope with the madness of war through constant hard work and harder drinking.

His world is interrupted by the arrival of 2nd Lt Raleigh, someone from his past who strongly reconnects him to his former life in Blighty and who disrupts the bizarre normality Stanhope has built around himself. The dialogue between the soldiers as they cope with trench life is incisive and smattered with the dark humour you would expect from men always living one bullet or shell away from death.

Journey's End runs until Saturday (8).

DANNY FARRAGHER

## Birmingham Royal Ballet: Beauty and the Beast, Hippodrome

THE dancing was superb, but that pretty much goes without saying when you are referring to the Birmingham Royal Ballet. But this production of Beauty and the Beast has so much more – amazing costumes, magical scenery and comic touches.

This towering gothic fairytale comes from the creator of Birmingham Royal Ballet's smash-hit Cinderella and basically tells the story of a cruel prince, cursed to spend the rest of his life living in a fantastical castle with the animals he callously hunted who finds salvation in the heart of a beautiful girl.

Caught stealing a single rose, Belle's desperate father exchanges his life for his youngest daughter's freedom. In his

## Alan Carr, NIA, Birmingham

WHEN toothy bespectacled comedian Alan Carr introduced his Spexy Beast show at Birmingham on Sunday, on his second night at the cavernous NIA venue as part of his first stand-up tour in four years, he said there would be good bits and bad bits (or words to that effect).

After his two sets, totally around 90 minutes, I realised this was no false modesty. Carr's great strength is that he comes across as a chatty, exuberant friend with great quick wit and a tendency to spice

distant castle the Beast, stripped of his handsome features and his very humanity, must win her heart, or spend the rest of his life in bitter solitude.

A beautiful girl, a hideous beast, a golden ballroom full of animals, two outrageously naughty sisters and a grumpy grand-mother dance, prance and rage through the unfolding pages of Philip Prowse's stunning storybook.

There are many lighter moments, particularly with the two sisters who take on an almost panto-style role (like the two ugly sisters). But the real treat was the exquisite dancing by Belle (Nao Sakuma) and The Beast (Iain Mackay).

SUE ATTWATER

their conversation with expletives and risque comments. Though even he had to work hard to create an atmosphere in the hangar-like venue.

Usually on TV he is sat down, so seeing him pace and, let's be frank, mince around the stage served as a reminder what a fine physical comedian he is. The video screens that flanked the stage were vital to catch those expressions that increased the impact of his gags by a significant factor.

LEON BURAKOWSKI



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Contact page	Contact form, map, email	Contact form, map, email	Contact form, map, email	Contact form, map, email
Business information	1,000 character business description	500 characters + products offered	×	✓
Images/logos	Up to 6	✓	PDF upload of print directory ad	✓
Weblink	✓	Additional charge of £100 P/A	✓	✓
User reviews	✓	✓	×	×
Special offers	✓	✓	×	✓

Product offerings vary but where possible like for like products have been compared. \*Correct at time of going to print.

\* SOURCE: OMNITURE OCT 2009





# Television's lead ladies on the magic of Merlin



Angel Coulby as Gwen in the hit TV series Merlin



Katie McGrath at the launch of The Dragon Tower



Katie McGrath as the dark sorceress Morgana

POPULAR fantasy drama Merlin, which has returned to Saturday night television screens for its fourth series, has made stars of its two leading ladies, Katie McGrath and Angel Coulby.

They represent good and evil in the action-packed retelling of Arthurian legend, with McGrath as the dark sorceress Morgana and Coulby as Gwen, the future Queen Guinevere.

During a break from filming in Wales and at a French castle, both actresses visited Warwick Castle to help launch The Dragon Tower, the castle's new attraction for 2011 in which fans of the TV show can meet the dragon from Merlin, which is voiced in the series by John Hurt.

And while they enjoy the robes and drama of Merlin, a worldwide TV hit made by Shine for the BBC, they both revealed they hoped their high profile will win them roles in American TV and film.

"I would really love to do something set in modern times," said raven-haired Irish actress Katie McGrath, who is aged 28. "I wish my next role could involve me wearing jeans, driving cars and lots of big explosions."

"I would like to go to America," added 31-year-old Londoner Angel Coulby. "But I would also love to work in British theatre, such as at the Royal Court or the Almeida."

Both are fervent supporters of their characters. Katie says Morgana was not born bad but pushed towards the dark side by the prejudices of others, not least King Uther Pendragon, Arthur's father, played by Anthony Head. On Gwen/Guinevere, 31-year-old Angel said: "I like that she is going on this journey."

"She had very humble beginnings as a serving girl and goes on to become a queen. She is a people's person who fights for the underdogs. I like to think that if she was in a modern setting she would be a human rights lawyer, or something like that."

"I like how she has grown in strength and how she nurtures Arthur's good heart and brings that good quality out of him."

Angel wanted to be an actress from childhood and attended drama school in Edinburgh, getting her big break on TV in Johnny Vaughan's sitcom 'Orrible'.

Katie took a more unusual route. After graduating in history from Dublin's Trinity College, she aimed for a career in fashion journalism and after a magazine job became a wardrobe assistant on the set of The Tudors. After being told by friends and colleagues that she should try acting, she finally won a role in front of camera on the very same show.

## Vengeful

There are few actresses who look better in medieval garb and her minor role helped win the County Wicklow woman the more substantial role of wronged and vengeful Morgana in Merlin.

Not having had formal acting training makes Katie nervous of appearing in theatre - "there are no second and third takes on stage" - but maybe a Chekhov drama would tempt her one day because she has a passion for Russian literature, especially Tolstoy.

Both actresses were kept in the dark about their character's story arc as they made the fourth series but both seem likely to figure more prominently in the plot, as Gwen's royal destiny approaches and Morgana gives the young Merlin his toughest challenge when she summons demonic creatures to battle Arthur and his loyal knights.

With a fifth series likely and the show being a success worldwide from China to the US, it seems likely that Katie and Angel may not have to wait too long for Hollywood to come calling.

The fourth series of Merlin, featuring Colin Morgan as the young wizard, began last Saturday on BBC1 with The Darkest Hour, and that episode is still available to view on the BBC iPlayer until this Saturday's installment.

Fans of the show can encounter a waxwork of Colin Morgan and see props from the TV show, as well as getting up close and personal with a dragon, by visiting The Dragon Tower as part of a trip to Warwick Castle.

## What's on at the region's big theatres

ZOONATION presents a modern musical comedy with the theme of Hollywood cross-dressing comedy classic *Some Like It Hot*, at Birmingham Hippodrome from Tuesday to the following Saturday.

Meanwhile, pink and perky American musical *Legally Blonde*, introducing Faye Brookes as not-so-dumb blonde Elle Wood with Claire Sweeney as her hairdresser pal Paulette, continues at Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre until October 15.

South Staffs Musical Theatre Company stages Broadway classic *Guys and Dolls* at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre from Tuesday to the following Saturday.

Tonight (Thursday) and tomorrow night, Ace presents powerful contemporary dance piece *Ice* at Wolverhampton's Arena Theatre.

At the same venue on Tuesday, Rumpus Theatre presents a spooky tale by Charles Dickens, *The Haunted Bride*, and on Wednesday, Two Gents stages *Kupenga Kwa Hamlet*, an African take on the Shakespeare classic with the action moved from Scotland to Zimbabwe.

## Pierces concert not likely to be forgotten



The Pierces play in Birmingham on October 12

AMERICAN sisters The Pierces, who recently supported Coldplay at the iTunes Festival, bring their west coast sunshine sound to Birmingham venue The Glee Club on Wednesday, October 12. The Alabama-born, New York-based siblings have a new single out, *It Will Not Be Forgotten*, following their radio favourites *Glorious* and *You'll Be Mine* from their *You & I* album, produced by Coldplay's Guy Berryman.

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## CASUALTY

BBC1, 9.40pm

It's hard to see why doctors and nurses are perceived as angels. But not many of us believe they actually are. If only Maya knew that. Maya (Anabel Bonston - Coring Of Age), blacked out while on a bridge and falls onto a car below. The vehicle is being driven by poor Charlie (Derek Thompson). Maya reveals that she sees angels and considers Charlie their instrument on Earth. Zoe (Suzette Sokker) takes the case, but must act quickly when Maya blacks out once again. Elsewhere, worried recruit Scarlett (Madeleine Mantock) endures a hellish shift. Fortunately, she gets the chance to prove that she has what it takes to save a life.

**9.00 Breakfast** 9.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. **9.40 Nigel Slater's Simple Cooking** (F) **10.00 BBC News** Regional News; Weather. **10.10 Football Focus** 10.10 Formula 1: The Japanese Grand Prix - Qualifying. **10.40 A Question of Sport** (F) **11.00 Don't Stand So Close to Me** (F) **11.30 Rubber** (1987) Children's comedy remake, starring Robin Williams. **11.40 BBC News** Regional News; Weather. **11.50 Celebrity MasterChef**

**9.00 Saturday Come Dine With Us** The couples face the public vote for the first time.

**9.00 The Mole** Part two of two. Arthur prepares to make the ultimate sacrifice.

**9.10 The National Lottery: Scratch Fortune** Quiz show, presented by Mick Knuckles. Last in the series.

**9.30 Community** Scarlett doubts her abilities as a nurse.

**9.40 BBC News/Weather**

**9.50 Outnumbered** Another guest arrives to stay with the family. Last in the series. (F)

**10.10 A Little Bit of Heaven** With John Prescott, Russell Kane and Edith Bowman. (F) National Lottery Update.

**10.10 The Football League Show** Highlights of today's games in League One and League Two.

**10.10 Flint Highlander: The Source** (2007) Fantasy, starring Adrian Paul. **10.20 Weatherwise** **10.30 BBC News**

**9.00 CBeebies** **9.30 CBBC** **10.00 The Sky at Night** (F) **10.30 Flint The Gay Divorcee** (1934) Musical comedy, starring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. **10.40 Flint The Importance of Being Earnest** (1952) Comedy, starring Michael Redgrave. **10.50 The Great British Bake Off** **11.00 Maderlase** (F) **11.10 Escape to the Country** (F) **11.20 Flog It** (F)

**9.20 A History of Ancient Britain** The origins of Britain and its people. (F)

**10.00 A Tribute to David Coby** Profile of the late writer, producer and director.

**10.10 The 100th Anniversary** Capturing the cinema. (F)

**10.30 The 100th Anniversary** The 100th Anniversary of the cinema. (F)

**10.40 The 100th Anniversary** The 100th Anniversary of the cinema. (F)

**10.50 The 100th Anniversary** The 100th Anniversary of the cinema. (F)

**11.00 The 100th Anniversary** The 100th Anniversary of the cinema. (F)

**11.10 The 100th Anniversary** The 100th Anniversary of the cinema. (F)

**11.20 The 100th Anniversary** The 100th Anniversary of the cinema. (F)

**11.30 The 100th Anniversary** The 100th Anniversary of the cinema. (F)

**9.00 Live Rugby: World Cup** The second quarterfinal (Kick-off 8.30am). **11.10 ITV News** **11.20 Coronation Street** **11.30 The X Factor** (F) **11.40 Britain Does the Funniest Things** (F) **11.50 Rugby: World Cup Highlights** **12.00 Regional Programming** **12.10 ITV News** **12.30 New You've Been Framed**

**9.00 All Star Family Fortunes** Peter Andre and Kate Thornton take part.

**9.00 Harry Hill's TV Repair** New series. Harry Hill looks with his regular review of the week's small-screen highlights, providing soap spoofs, reality show cut-ups and the odd light or two.

**9.30 The X Factor** The first of the live studio rounds, which see the final 16 acts perform in a bid to win viewers' votes and the approval of the judges. Presented by Dermot O'Leary. The results can be seen tomorrow at 8pm.

**9.40 The 100th Anniversary** The 100th Anniversary of the cinema. (F)

**10.00 The 100th Anniversary** The 100th Anniversary of the cinema. (F)

**10.10 The 100th Anniversary** The 100th Anniversary of the cinema. (F)

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**10.40 The 100th Anniversary** The 100th Anniversary of the cinema. (F)

**10.50 The 100th Anniversary** The 100th Anniversary of the cinema. (F)

**9.00 The Hobbit** (F) **9.30 The Film Show** (F) **10.00 Superbike World Championship 2011** (F) **10.30 British GT Championship 2011** **10.50 Channel 4 Presents - Nathan Aspinall: The Sharp End** (F) **11.00 The Morning Line** **11.10 T4: The Couch** **11.20 T4: Snatchville** (F) **11.30 T4: Made in Chelsea** **11.40 T4: Filmmaker Live at V Festival** **11.50 T4: The Big Bang Theory** (F) **12.10 T4: The Simpsons** (F) **12.30 Road to London 2012: That Panathlone Show** **12.40 Channel 4 Racing** **12.50 Come Dine with Me** (F) **1.00 Come Dine with Me** (F) **1.10 Come Dine with Me** (F)

**9.20 Come Dine with Me** Paula Skelton hosts the final evening in Bury (F)

**9.30 Channel 4 News** Members of the public reflect on religious issues.

**9.40 The 100th Anniversary** The 100th Anniversary of the cinema. (F)

**10.00 The 100th Anniversary** The 100th Anniversary of the cinema. (F)

**10.10 The 100th Anniversary** The 100th Anniversary of the cinema. (F)

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**10.50 The 100th Anniversary** The 100th Anniversary of the cinema. (F)

**11.00 The 100th Anniversary** The 100th Anniversary of the cinema. (F)

**9.00 Mitchell** **9.30 The Gadget Show** (F) **10.00 New Highland Emergency** (F) **10.30 Big Brother: The Eviction** (F) **10.40 Big Brother: The Eviction** (F) **10.50 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **11.00 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **11.10 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **11.20 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **11.30 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **11.40 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **11.50 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **12.00 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **12.10 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **12.20 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **12.30 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **12.40 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **12.50 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **1.00 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **1.10 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **1.20 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **1.30 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **1.40 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **1.50 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **2.00 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **2.10 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **2.20 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **2.30 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **2.40 The Big Bang Theory** (F) **2.50 The Big Bang Theory** 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**Channel 5** 6:00 Midsouth 8:15 The Weight Shift 11:30 LIVE with Gaby 12:05 S' Newc Lundryne 1:25 Ek Brother 1:45 Home and Away 1:55 Neighborhood 2:15 CSI Miami 3:15 First To Die 3:41 Don't Tell the Bride 4:00 The Bachelor 4:15 Home and Away 4:30 CSI Miami 5:00 News at 7 7:30 PM Great S' Newc Update 8:00 Ultimate Police Interceptor S' Newc at 3 9:00 Ek Brother Live Update 10:00 The Bachelor 11:00 Ek Brother The Election Interview 11:30 Ek Brother Eat on the Skirt 12:15 Super Cache 1:00 The Bachelor 1:30 The Bachelor 2:00 Animal Rescue Squad (R) 5:00 House Hunters (R) 5:30 House Doctor (R)

## Brain Gym

No.137

## SEVEN GREAT GAMES IN ONE!

App Store SEARCH: DAILY EXPRESS PUZZLES

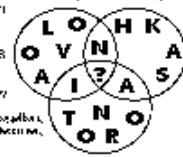


## ALL YOUR PUZZLE NEEDS

IN ONE HANDY APP!

## Circlegram

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be arranged to form words on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION: The letter represented by the question mark is 'A'. The words are: OVEN, KISS, and TROIS.

## ALL YOUR PUZZLE NEEDS IN ONE HANDY APP!



App Store

OUT NOW!

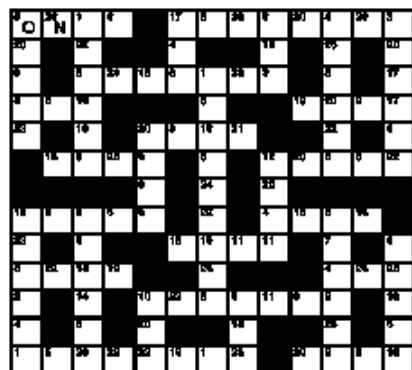
Seven great games in one!

CRYPTIC CROSSWORDS  
QUICK CROSSWORDS  
CODEWORD SUDOKU  
WORD PUZZLER  
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NUMBER CRUNCH

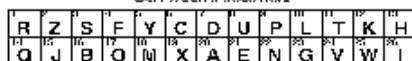
SEARCH: DAILY EXPRESS PUZZLES  
On the iPhone, iPad Touch & iPad

## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

## Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

## Cryptic Clues:

## Across

- Clean down (5)
- Naming a place. In inverted commas? (7)
- The attendant's not responsible for it (7)
- I shut up about the demand (5)
- Toilet filled? (4)
- Spares men (8)
- Oog - part of one (4)
- Slipping action used by fishermen (4)
- Mainly a dancer (8)
- Someone engaged in some shady business (4)
- In the mood of a name (5)
- Reduce the charge (7)
- Give one the right to call (7)
- Only about five to do this puzzle? (5)

## Down

- Acts spitefully, but courts disaster (5,4,4)
- Happen to come later (5)
- Women in retreat (4)
- After a quick start it's simple to be unsettled (6)
- One way to obtain goods without paying (2,6)
- Fancy one taking a drink in the Middle East (7)
- You'll be lucky to win one of them (5,2,6)
- Word that might be mis-spoken, though the easiest (8)
- It's strong to take shape in to texture (7)
- Red Indian dancer (8)
- Turn out a bad scholar? (5)
- The French ship is smaller (4)

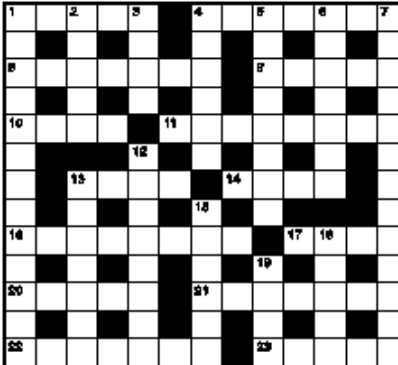
## Quick Clues:

## Across

- Trail (5)
- Long needed animal (7)
- Vicious (7)
- Concert (5)
- Alloys (4)
- Eligible (4)
- Expensive (4)
- Speed (4)
- Recording (8)
- Scored portrait (4)
- Orion (5)
- Marvel (7)
- Saman (7)
- Seign (5)

## Down

- Circus performer (7,6)
- Astonish (5)
- Monarch (4)
- Convent (6)
- Sane (5)
- Warship (7)
- Amusement (1,3)
- Andean language (8)
- Unkind (7)
- Previous (6)
- Beverage (5)
- Cupid (4)

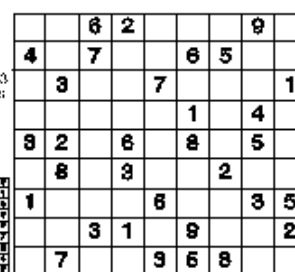


LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION: CRYPTIC - Across: 1. Outspoken, 8. Sea, 9. Inexpensive, 10. Sublime, 11. Using, 14. Gutter, 15. Chief, 18. Tissue, 19. Mite, 20. Tilt, 21. Sign, 22. Artist, 23. Tinseltown, 24. Ours, 25. Perfection. Down: 1. Misogynist, 2. All India, 3. Pupa, 4. Inland, 5. Apparent, 7. Cook, 9. Hook, 11. Usage, 12. Quibble, 13. Attention, 14. Strong, 15. Rivalry, 16. Posing, 17. Sign, 18. Sea, 19. Mite, 20. Tilt, 21. Sign, 22. Artist, 23. Tinseltown, 24. Ours, 25. Perfection. QUICK - Across: 1. Trail, 2. Vicious, 3. Concert, 4. Alloy, 5. Eligible, 6. Expensive, 7. Speed, 8. Recording, 9. Scored portrait, 10. Orion, 11. Marvel, 12. Saman, 13. Seign. Down: 1. Circus performer, 2. Astonish, 3. Monarch, 4. Convent, 5. Sane, 6. Warship, 7. Amusement, 8. Andean language, 9. Unkind, 10. Previous, 11. Beverage, 12. Cupid.

## Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



## You want to buy a second-hand car.

Just something that's fuel-efficient. But it needs a bit of **power** - your neighbourhood's quite **hilly** and your groceries can be so heavy. And it's nice to have an engine that **roars**.

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Professionally styled family homes, named the Brentwood and the Woodbridge, are now open for viewing

# Show homes open to view

**H**OUSEBUILDER Barratt West Midlands is giving homebuyers in Worcester plenty to see at its Willis Place development, where two new show homes from the company's brand new range of properties are available to view.

These family homes, named the Brentwood and the Woodbridge, have been professionally styled by interior specialists Claude Hooper and offer buyers an excellent chance to see how their home could take shape at these sought after developments.

"Our new show homes are perfect for families who would like to see how their new home could look here and we're delighted to offer homebuyers a first glimpse of Barratt's new range of property styles," says Graydon Worthing, Sales Director for Barratt West Midlands.

"The range marks the culmination of a major brand makeover.

"During the last three years we have invested in build quality, customer service and development layout.

"The re-design of the homes represents the latest stage in this customer-centred evolution.

"The Brentwood and Woodbridge-style properties showcase many of the fantastic features our new homes have, including open-plan floor

layouts which give you a space big enough to be used in a variety of ways.

"This gives purchasers the option to arrange the layout of their home the way they want to, for example deciding to have the dining room in the kitchen.

"Younger buyers are especially fond of having this option."

The Brentwood is a three-bedroom home and was designed with a palette of black and green that give the house a modern and sophisticated look.

The furniture placed throughout the house is predominantly chrome and black glass.

There are two children's bedrooms on the first floor.

One of the bedrooms is a boy's room with a golf theme which is perfect as this bedroom window looks onto the entrance of Worcester's golf club.

## Mural

The second bedroom is a twin bedroom which has a Cinderella theme because of the development being on the old Cinderella Works factory site.

This bedroom also has a mural of this Disney film on the wall.

The generously spaced Woodbridge show home is designed with a palette of white and olive green.

These colours give the house a very light, airy and fresh feeling. The wallpaper is white with a pearl sheen that

reflects lighting to give the house an open feel.

Thanks to Barratt's new range the Woodbridge has full height glazed bay windows and roof windows to maximize natural light and optimize views.

There are two children's bedrooms situated on the first floor. One of which has been designed for a teenage girl who is into shoes and fashion.

This room has been designed this way again with the sites heritage of the old Cinderella Works factory in mind that manufactured shoes.

There is a painted mural in this room of a shoe princess. The second bedroom is a boy's bedroom that is themed around cricket, as Worcester is famous for its cricket ground.

There is a painted mural in there to support this.

The top floor is very spacious and has a light and airy feel. Pictures and lights are all silver/chrome accompanied by black and white photography has been used throughout this room.

Willis Place is located in the St John's area of Worcester and currently offers three- and four-bedroom homes priced from £184,950. For more information, please contact the sales office on 07834 543793 open daily between 10am and 5pm.

For more information please call the sales hotline on 0844 811 9933 open seven days a week 8am to 9pm or see [www.barratthomes.co.uk/willisplace](http://www.barratthomes.co.uk/willisplace)

# Heated pool and countryside views

**A**SUPERB four-bedroom family home set in around 1.65 acres at Kidderminster's premier residential address is being sold, with a price tag of £745,000.

The property - 28 Whitehill Road - has breathtaking views over countryside, a heated swimming pool, landscaped gardens and woodland, four reception rooms, rear conservatory, breakfast kitchen and utility, splendid master bedroom, two bathrooms, large attic new, double garage and is newly double glazed throughout.

Whitehill Road is a highly sought after private road in leafy surroundings on the western outskirts of Kidderminster and renowned as the premier residential address in the district.

Standing in beautifully landscaped gardens which merge into woodland and also enjoy far reaching views towards Trimpley, this most attractive 1930s built property lies discreetly set back from the road behind an enticing driveway approach with central island and parking for numerous cars.

There are superb elevated views to the rear over countryside, with sweeping lawns to well stocked beds and borders.

The interior extends to around



Number 28 Whitehill Road, Kidderminster, is a large detached property, available for £745,000

4,000 sq ft of space arranged principally over two floors, plus a sizeable second floor attic room offering potential to create a fifth bedroom, games room or office.

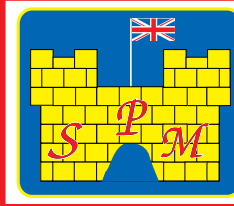
The four bedrooms are all of excellent proportions, the largest two both benefiting from picture windows capturing the magnificent views to the rear, while the master bedroom features a generous en-suite bathroom.

The extensive ground floor accommodation includes an impressive reception hall with feature staircase

and guest cloakroom, while there are four separate reception rooms including study, lounge, sitting room and dining room. The lounge leads on to rear conservatory, which provides a fine vantage point looking over gardens and terrace - including a heated swimming pool.

Also on the ground floor is the breakfast kitchen with large walk-in pantry, utility room, swimming pool changing room and WC.

Call Allan Morris & Jones on 01562 747755 for further details.



# Select

Property Management Ltd

Tel: 01384 277701

Fax: 01384 277720

## TIVIDALE

NEW



### TIVIDALE STREET

£530 pcm

Terrace Property, Entrance Hall, Kitchen/Breakfast, Lounge, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Off Road Parking, Unfurnished.

## KINVER

NEW



### FOSTER CRESCENT

£395 pcm

Large Studio Flat, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Bedroom, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Side & Rear Garden

## WOLLASTON

NEW



### WILDACRES

£650 pcm

Detached Bungalow, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens, Unfurnished

## PENSNETT

NEW



### HIGH STREET

£395 pcm

Split Level Flat, Entrance Hall, Large Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Yard

## QUARRY BANK

NEW



### PARK ROAD

£550 pcm

Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, Three/Four Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished.

## DUDLEY

NEW



### FOXGLOVE ROAD

£495 pcm

Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Ground Floor Bathroom, Three Bedrooms, WC, Gas Central Heating, Partial Double Glazing, Corner Plot

## DUDLEY

NEW



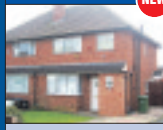
### STOURBRIDGE ROAD

£525 pcm

Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Off Road Parking

## KINGSWINFORD

NEW



### STEWART ROAD

£595 pcm

Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Gardens, Off Road

## DUDLEY

NEW



### BOURNE STREET

£360 pcm

First Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, One Double Bedroom, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, No Pets.

## WOLLASTON

NEW



### RICHARDSON DRIVE

£430 pcm

Maisonette, Lounge, Kitchen, Bedroom, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Allocated Parking.

## GREAT BRIDGE

NEW



### EAGLE PLACE

£370 pcm

Apartment, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Economy Seven Heating, Carpets & Curtains, Private Parking, Security Entrance Door

## TIVIDALE

NEW



### ASHTREE ROAD

£365 pcm

Maisonette, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Communal Grounds, Unfurnished.

## WORDSLEY



### CHAPEL STREET

£435 pcm

First Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Electric Heating, Laminate Flooring & Curtains, Unfurnished

## KINGSWINFORD



### PENZER STREET

£575 pcm

Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Gardens, Single Garage.

## UPPER GORNAL

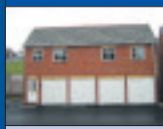


### WOOD ROAD

£525 pcm

Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Ground Floor WC, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished

## TIPTON



### GRACE ROAD

£495 pcm

Modern apartment. Lounge, kitchen, bathroom, two bedrooms, electric heating, double glazing, carpets and curtains. Unfurnished.

## TIPTON



### ANCHOR DRIVE

£495 pcm

Apartment, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Off Road Parking

## COSELEY



### QUILTER CLOSE

£695 pcm

Detached Property, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, WC, Utility, Four Bedrooms, En Suite, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Carpets & Curtains, Front & Rear Gardens, Garage

## NETHERTON



### PURLIN WHARF

£525 pcm

Apartment, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom with Shower, Two Bedrooms, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Designated Parking, Unfurnished.

## WORDSLEY



### ARUNDEL ROAD

£610 pcm

Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility Area, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Carpets & Curtains, Garage, Unfurnished.

## SEDGLEY



### THE PADDOCK

£670 pcm

Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Four Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking, Unfurnished

## COLLEY GATE



### WINDMILL HILL

£425 pcm

First Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Unfurnished, Electric Heating, Off Road Parking, Recently Refurnished, Available Immediately.

## DUDLEY



### STOURBRIDGE ROAD

£510 pcm

Terrace property, Lounge, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, gas central heating, carpets & curtains, rear garden. Unfurnished.

## COLLEY GATE



### WINDMILL HILL

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**The Old Stables, Ribbesford, Bewdley**

Beautifully finished semi-detached barn conversion with magnificent views to rear. Reception Hall, Guest Cloakroom 17ft x 14ft Lounge with Inglenook, Breakfast Kitchen with Integral Appliances, Master Bedroom, 2 Further Bedrooms each with Dressing Areas, Parking for 4 Cars, No upward chain.

PRICE: £285,000



**Court Cottages, Wolverley Road, Wolverley**

Superbly presented 4 bedroom property directly adjoining open fields to rear. Living room, sitting room, dining room, contemporary fitted kitchen, bathroom and en suite, guest cloakroom, new detached double garage, splendid views front and rear.

PRICE: £299,950



**Westhead Road, Cookley**

Greatly extended and superbly spacious 5 bedroom semi-detached house in desirable village location. 20ft living room, separate sitting room, 10ft breakfast kitchen and utility, superb master bedroom with en suite, 21ft second bedroom, enormous garage 31ft 7in x 11ft 4in with conversion potential, 4/5 car driveway, vacant possession upon completion.

PRICE: £245,500



**Lionfields Road, Cookley**

Charming semi-detached cottage in popular village location with adjacent driveway. Sitting Room, Oak Dining Kitchen with Zanussi Dishwasher, Refitted Bathroom, Two Double Bathrooms, Neat Enclosed Rear Garden, Gas Central Heating, uPVC Double Glazing, No Upward Chain.

PRICE: £137,950



**Holly Cottages, Caunsall**

A charming semi-detached cottage in sought after hamlet enjoying country lane position. Sitting Room with Feature Fireplace, Dining Room with Fireplace, Kitchen with Integral Hob, Oven and Hood, Two Double Bedrooms, Driveway Parking for 2/3 Cars, Overlooking Fields to Front.

£169,950



**Plowstall House, Bayton**

Beautiful newly renovated Grade II listed 4 Bedroom Farmhouse in picturesque country village. Magnificent Master Bedroom Suite with own staircase, wonderful 14ft x 10ft En Suite Dressing Room, splendid 14ft En Suite Bathroom, superior Principal Bathroom, spacious Living Room with inglenook fireplace, fully fitted 10ft x 14ft Farmhouse Kitchen, 10ft x 10ft Breakfast Family Room, large Dining Room, Study, Garden Room, Utility Room, Guest Cloakroom, Detached 3 car Garage.

PRICE: £529,950



**Brandwood, Hernes Nest, Bewdley**

A most impressive and stylish, individually built Detached House approx 2,917 sq ft situated in exclusive private road with superb views to the front. Magnificent 20ft x 24ft Lounge/Dining Room, splendid 24ft Breakfast Kitchen, spacious Master Bedroom, En Suite Bathroom and Dressing Room, Two further Bedrooms and Shower Room, Reception Hall, Guest Cloakroom, Utility, Tandem Garage 29ft x 13ft max, Landscaped Terraced Garden.

PRICE £465,000



**Ravenscroft, Clows Top**

A spacious individual detached house set in generous gardens with swimming pool. Large Reception Hall with Cloakroom, 20' Lounge, 17' Sitting Room, Separate Dining Room, 24' Breakfast Kitchen, 29' Conservatory, Four Bedrooms, Two Bathrooms, Detached Double Garage. No Upward Chain.

PRICE: £425,000



**Austcliffe Park, Cookley**

'Omar' 36ft x 12ft Park Home on sought after canal side holiday home park with 11 months permitted Holiday occupancy. Lounge/Diner with French windows, Gallery Kitchen, Breakfast Room/Occasional Bedroom, Double Bedroom with Fitted Wardrobes, Bathroom, LPG Central Heating, uPVC Double Glazing, Over 50's only.

PRICE: £65,000



**Hoarstone Lodge, Hoarstone Lane, Bewdley**

Beautifully situated spacious and well presented detached bungalow set in around 0.25 of an acre with lovely views all around. Agricultural occupancy restriction applies. 18ft x 15ft Lounge overlooking Garden, Three Bedrooms all with wardrobes, smart Bathroom, Breakfast Kitchen with Rayburn, separate Utility Room, Office, Garage, Superb Location.

PRICE: £295,000



**Wood Edge Cottage, Astley Burf**

A quintessential Country Cottage set with approx one third of an acre of mature gardens and grounds, with delightful open views. Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Utility, Conservatory, Bathroom, Bedroom Suite to include Dressing Room and Shower Room, further Bedroom with Nursery/Study off, Garage.

PRICE: £345,000



**Waters Edge, Stourport-on-Severn**

Fabulous second floor waterfront apartment with balcony overlooking canal basin. Master Bedroom with views, En Suite Shower Room, Second Bedroom with views, Principal Bathroom, Open Plan Kitchen Area, splendid Lounge with doors to Balcony, Parking Space, Mooring may be available.

PRICE: £154,950



**The White House, Far Forest, Nr Bewdley**

Spacious country cottage with excellent self contained annexe, all set in around 2 acres with stables & splendid views. Four Bedrooms, Two Bathrooms, 27ft Kitchen/Dining Room, Living Room, Sitting Room, Annexe with 18' x 18' Lounge, Own En-Suite Bedroom & Dining Room, Useful Outbuildings.

PRICE: £499,995



**Lyndale, Callow Hill, Rock**

Superbly spacious and well presented individual detached house in around three-quarters of an acre of delightful gardens. Four Double Bedrooms (three en suite), stunning 24ft x 20ft Lounge/Garden Room, splendid 10ft x 11ft Dining Room, separate 10ft Sitting Room, large Study/Playroom, excellent Open Plan Kitchen/Conservatory, Laundry Room, grand Reception Hall and Cloakroom, Garage/Workshop. Viewing absolutely essential, approx 3,570 sq ft.

PRICE: £485,000

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# MOTING NEWS AND REVIEWS CHRONICLE MOTORING

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Your essential guide to the world of motoring compiled by Motoring Editor Sharon Walters

## Experience summer in the Citigo from Škoda

ŠKODA'S new model will make its debut in its domestic market, the Czech Republic, before the end of this year, with the UK and other European countries following at the beginning of summer 2012. The Citigo will be launched in three-door and five-door versions.

"The Citigo is one of the pillars of our growth strategy. It paves the way for tremendous opportunities in a new segment," said Škoda Board chairman, Winfried Vahland.

"The Citigo is literally a 'simply clever' car. Despite its small size, it offers ample interior space; it is agile while frugal. Put simply, it's an attractive choice offering many clever ideas. The car offers all of Škoda's values in a compact package and fits perfectly with our aims."

With the Citigo, Škoda is entering a new sector. "The demand for small cars with low fuel consumption, at a favourable price and with reasonable operating costs, is growing," continues Mr Vahland.

"Škoda's new small vehicle is a reaction to this trend. We are entering new ground and the Citigo will attract prospects mainly in our European markets."

The designers have given the car a distinct look that defines this as a new Škoda. The finned grille set in a chrome-plated frame and precisely shaped headlamps give the car a typical Škoda look. The Citigo will measure just 3.56 metres long, 1.65 metres wide and 1.48 metres high.

The Škoda Citigo is an ideal car in and out of the city. It offers generous interior space. The car's long wheel base – 2.42 metres – provides enough comfort for four passengers even on long trips. The boot volume is a sizeable 251 litres, which can be extended to 951 litres by folding down the rear seats.

The interior design includes numerous storage compartments, cup holders and multimedia systems, as well as storage pockets on the sides of the front seats. In addition, a special bag hook integrated in to the glovebox handle, and a photograph holder on the central console, are two clever interior elements.

The vehicle has a number of solutions to help improve overall comfort. In the three-door version, the 'Easy Entry' system allows easy access to the rear seats. The front passenger's seat can be moved and folded forward to ensure easy access to the rear seats.

For the first time in a Škoda vehicle, a portable navigation system is available. The device is fitted to the dashboard and can be removed easily and used on the go.

Being an integral part of the vehicle's onboard electronics, the system provides not just navigation, but also hands-free calling with built-in Bluetooth and onboard infotainment. Using a five-inch touch screen, the driver can view important information about the car (onboard computer, optical signals from the parking sensors).

The Citigo places great emphasis on safety. For the first time in a Škoda vehicle, the designers have used a head-thorax side airbag to protect the heads of both the driver and the front seat passenger.

Along with a number of other items, this system is part of a package usually found on much larger cars. In addition, active safety is enhanced by the 'city safe drive', a new brake assistance system with a laser sensor that is activated automatically at speeds below 30km/h when there is danger of a collision.

### Breaking

Depending on the speed and the traffic situation, the emergency braking solution may completely prevent a collision or at least reduce its severity.

The risk of bumping into the car ahead is reduced significantly in city traffic. The Citigo is one of only two cars in the city car segment to offer the emergency braking function.

Two new, three-cylinder 1.0-litre engines will be available after the launch (44kW/60PS and 55kW/75PS) engines and the transmission has been designed to provide optimum economy and their surroundings.

Reaching the operating temperature on short distances, the engines are highly economical.

Two highly economical green engines will be available after the launch (44kW/60PS and 55kW/75PS) engines and the transmission has been designed to provide optimum economy and their surroundings.

Fuel consumption and emission levels for the standard engines are also low – 62.8mpg and 105g CO2/km with the 60PS engine and 60.1mpg and 108g CO2/km with the 75PS unit.



The Škoda Citigo



Visit: [themotorhouse.co.uk](http://themotorhouse.co.uk)  
or Call: **08444 704235**

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# Dealers get their hands on a new Korean model



Prices for SsangYong's European-designed Korando crossover start at £16,995

THE new SsangYong Korando crossover is now on sale in the UK, and ahead of its national launch dealers were invited to attend a conference and collect their demonstrators.

Paul Williams, CEO, and Steve Gray, marketing and communications director of SsangYong Motor UK presented the network with final details of the launch, and were joined by senior managers from SsangYong Motor Company in Korea.

Korando – This new crossover model which was designed by Giugiaro for Europe, is available in three trim levels – S, ES and EX, with the choice of two-wheel drive or four-wheel drive, and manual or automatic transmission. Prices start from £16,995.

Rexton – The seven-seat Rexton off-roader is available as the 270 S with manual or automatic transmission, and 270 EX with automatic transmission as standard. On the road prices start from £19,995. A commercial variant, the Rexton CS is available with two seats, a 2.2 cubic metre load area and manual or automatic transmission. Prices start from £16,339 (excluding VAT and on the road charges). Rodius – The seven seat Rodius MPV is available as the 270 S manual, the 270 ES with manual or automatic transmission, and the top specification 270 EX with all-wheel drive and automatic transmission.

All models have a generous luggage area, and on the road prices start from £14,995. Further new models will be announced in 2012.



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**Map:** We Are Here, 2nd 2 BURNLEY, A53, 1 White, 4 Reg



# Motor Market Expands With New Site

**C**radley Heath based car dealership Motor Market Limited continues to buck the trend in these tough economic times and have invested heavily in further expanding its business.



Already well respected for its approach to providing excellent customer service and value for money, Motor Market recently acquired the freehold to the former Crown Works engineering site adjacent to its existing premises. The additional space has allowed the business to improve its preparation and storage facilities and increase its stock holding capacity to 120+ cars.

Over the past few months the development has transformed a small corner of Newtown Lane, Cradley Heath from a series of dilapidated outbuildings and disused wasteland, to a striking modern facility that complements their original site opposite. A challenging project involved the initial demolition of derelict buildings and then the excavation and removal of over 800m<sup>3</sup> of subsoil to provide a level base. 60 tonne of basalt stone provides the floor

covering all retained by new brick work boundary walls and wrought iron fence details, which provide a striking frontage to the Newtown Lane aspect.

Owned by local brothers Dean and Adam Bridge Motor Market specialise in providing quality used vehicles between the £2995 and £6995 price ranges. Partnerships with major finance companies such as Close Motor Finance, Barclays and Santander also ensure they can provide competitive finance whenever it's required. As standard all vehicles are provided with a 72 point pre delivery inspection, clean



HPI reports, 12 months MOT and comprehensive mechanical warranties.

When asked the secret to their success, Dean commented. "I don't think its ever that simple or there's a single ingredient to making a successful business. For us the key has been to focus on what's important to our customers. We've never been in any doubt about this, their feedback tells us that excellent customer service, value for money and a comprehensive choice are the vital things that influence customers decision to buy.

We have always made a great effort to service

customers well, often going beyond what's typical in the used car market, but the fact 70% of our business now comes from repeat customers or personal recommendation shows us this policy is a worthwhile investment.

Also having been born, brought up and still living in the area we are well aware of peoples expectation when it comes to value for money, we work very hard to source competitively and combined with a no frills, lean approach to unnecessary overheads, we keep our prices extremely keen, without comprising on the quality of the finished car".

Adam went on to explain "the real driver behind the investment in this new facility is additional choice for our customers. We have always held a good stock of Ford, Vauxhall, Renault, Peugeot and Citroen, also we have now been able to expand this with Volkswagen, Jaguar, BMW, Mini and more means with over 120+ cars on display we now offer customers the widest choice of used stock in the area." So with the powerful



combination of increased choice, great value and excellent customer service Motor Market look very well positioned to serve the local used car market for many years to come.

## Motor Market

Best value, choice & customer service

### A SELECTION OF OUR STOCK

		Sale Price	Wkly Equiv
07 Reg	BMW 116i SE BMW Silver, Climate Control, Alloys, CD, FSH, 38k	£7995	£46
56 Reg	CITROEN C3 1.1 DESIRE Blue, air con, alloys, CD, 5-door, low insurance group 2, FSH, 31k	£4195	£28
55 Reg	CITROEN CR 1.4 VTR Black, AC, Alloys, CD, 3-door, Low Insurance Grp 4	£3195	£28
05 Reg	CITROEN XSARA PICASSO 1.6 DESIRE MPV Silver, AC, CD, Insurance group 5	£3495	£23
56 Reg	FIAT GRANDE PUNTO 1.2 ACTIVE Red, alloys, CD, Insurance group 2, 41k	£3695	£24
56 Reg	FIAT GRANDE PUNTO 1.4 ACTIVE Red, CD, 5-door, Ins Grp 2, FSH, 47k	£3995	£26
56 Reg	FIAT GRANDE PUNTO 1.4 ACTIVE Sport Silver, Alloys, CD, 3-door, Ins Grp 3, FSH, 48k	£3995	£26
04 Reg	FORD FIESTA 1.4 FLAME Orange, Alloys, CD	£2995	£17
08 Reg	FORD C-MAX 1.8 ZETEC MPV Silver, AC, Alloys, CD, FSH	£4695	£30
03 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.4 CL Silver, CD, Low Insurance Grp 4	£2195	£15
05 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI LX ESTATE Blue, Diesel, A/C, CD, FSH	£3695	£24
06 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.6 LX DUAL FUEL Blue, Petrol/Gas, AC, CD, FSH	£4495	£29
55 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.8 TDCI GHIA Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD	£4495	£29
07 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.8 TDCI LX Red, Diesel, Alloys, CD	£4695	£30
57 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.8i STYLE Blue, Col coded bumpers, Low tax & insurance, 33k	£3195	£33
08 Reg	FORD KA 1.3i STYLE Blue, Col coded bumpers, Low tax & insurance, 33k	£3495	£23
56 Reg	FORD STREET KA 1.6i Red, Silver, Convertible, Red Leather Seats, AC, Alloys, CD, FSH	£3995	£26
08 Reg	FORD MONDEO 1.8 TDCI EDGE Silver, Diesel, A/C, CD, FSH, 68k	£7195	£42
58 Reg	FORD MONDEO 1.8 TDCI EDGE ESTATE Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH, 68k	£7195	£42
06 Reg	MINI 1.6 ONE Silver, alloys, CD, insurance ce group 5, FSH	£5495	£35
07 Reg	JAGUAR X-TYPE 2.0i Grey, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH	£5695	£36
56 Reg	JAGUAR X-TYPE 2.0i CLASSIC Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD	£5695	£36
56 Reg	JAGUAR X-TYPE 2.0i ESTATE Blue, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, Leather Seats, FSH	£5695	£36
Y Reg	MGF 1.8i VVC CONVERTIBLE. Gold, Alloys, CD, 44k, p/x to clear	£2195	na
53 Reg	PEUGEOT 206 1.4 SE Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD Multi Changer	£2695	£17
56 Reg	PEUGEOT 206 1.4 SE Gold, A/C, Alloys, CD	£3195	£21
56 Reg	PEUGEOT 207 1.4 SE Black, AC, Alloys, CD, 5-door, FSH, 34k	£4995	£32
56 Reg	PEUGEOT 207 1.4 SE Silver, AC, CD, 5-door, FSH, £30 Year Road Tax	£3195	£33
56 Reg	PEUGEOT 207 1.4 SE Silver, AC, CD, 5-door, Panoramic Roof, FSH, 38k	£3195	£33
07 Reg	PEUGEOT 207 1.4 SPORT Orange, Alloys, AC, CD, Low Insurance Grp 4, FSH, 28k	£5495	£35
53 Reg	PEUGEOT 307 1.6 S ESTATE Silver, AC, Alloys, CD, Roof rails & bars, 67k	£2995	£19
04 Reg	PEUGEOT 307 1.6 S ESTATE AUTOMATIC Silver, Auto, AC, Alloys, CD, 12 months MOT, p/x to clear	£1995	na
05 Reg	PEUGEOT 307 1.6 HDI 110 SPORT Silver, Diesel, AC, Alloys, CD	£4495	£29
56 Reg	PEUGEOT 307 1.6 S Red, AC, Alloys, CD, FSH, 59k	£4495	£29

### MANY MORE CARS IN STOCK

		Sale Price	Wkly Equiv
56 Reg	PEUGEOT 307 1.6 HDI 110S Silver, Diesel, AC, Alloys, CD, FSH	£4695	£30
55 Reg	PEUGEOT 307 1.6 S Black, 2006, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH, 37k	£4695	£30
07 Reg	RENAULT CLIO 1.2 CAMPUS SPORT Blue, AC, Alloys, CD, Low Insurance Grp 3	£3995	£26
56 Reg	RENAULT CLIO 1.6 DYNAMIQUE (New Shape), AC, Alloys, CD, 5-door, Low Ins Grp 3, FSH	£3995	£26
06 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.9 DCI DYNAMIQUE Silver, Diesel, AC, Alloys, CD, Panoramic Roof	£3195	£21
05 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE. Red, AC, Alloys, CD, FSH, 49k	£3695	£24
57 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI DYNAMIQUE Blue, Diesel, AC, Alloys, CD, £30 Road Tax, FSH	£4695	£30
08 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI DYNAMIQUE Grey, Diesel, AC, Alloys, CD, £30 Road Tax, FSH	£6195	£40
04 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE Cabriolet. Blue, AC, 18in Alloys, CD, Panoramic Roof, 45k	£4495	£29
06 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE Cabriolet. Silver, AC, Alloys, CD, Panoramic Roof, FSH	£5995	£38
07 Reg	RENAULT SCENIC 1.5 DCI DYNAMIQUE MPV Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH	£4695	£30
57 Reg	RENAULT SCENIC 1.5 DCI DYNAMIQUE MPV Gold, Diesel, AC, Alloys, CD, FSH, 50i	£5495	£33
07 Reg	Vauxhall ASTRA 1.3 CDTI 16V LIFE Silver, Diesel, A/C, CD, Low Road Tax	£4995	£32
07 Reg	Vauxhall ASTRA 1.4i SXI Turquoise, air con, alloys, CD, FSH, 40k	£5195	£33
54 Reg	Vauxhall CORSA 1.2 SXI. Gold, AC, Alloys, CD, Low Ins Group 3	£3495	£23
54 Reg	Vauxhall CORSA 1.2 SXI. Blue, AC, Alloys, CD, Low Ins Grp 3	£3495	£23
55 Reg	Vauxhall CORSA 1.2i SXI+. Silver, AC, Alloys, CD, Low Ins Grp 3, FSH	£3695	£24
56 Reg	Vauxhall CORSA 1.2i SXI Silver, AC, Alloys, CD, 5-door, 30k	£4195	£28
08 Reg	Vauxhall CORSA 1.3 CDTI DESIGN Silver, Diesel, AC, Alloys, CD, Half Leather Seats, FSH	£5695	£36
05 Reg	Vauxhall VECTRA 1.8i VVT DESIGN Grey, A/C, Alloys, CD, Half Leather Sport Seats	£5495	£35
06 Reg	Vauxhall VECTRA 1.8i VVT EXCLUSIVE Silver, A/C, CD, 48k	£5195	£33
57 Reg	Vauxhall ZAFIRA 1.6i CLUB MPV Black, AC, CD, 7 seater, FSH, 46k	£5995	£38
07 Reg	Vauxhall ZAFIRA 1.8i CLUB MPV Black, AC, CD, 7 seater, FSH, 30k	£5695	£36
08 Reg	Vauxhall ZAFIRA 1.6i LIFE MPV Black, AC, CD, 7 seater, FSH, 19k	£5195	£40
53 Reg	Volkswagen BEETLE 2.0 S Silver, A/C, Alloys, CD, Full Winter Pack, FSH	£2995	£19
55 Reg	Volkswagen GOLF 1.4 S Red, Diesel, AC, CD, FSH, 41k	£5495	£35
55 Reg	Volkswagen PASSAT 1.9 S SE TDI Blue, AC, Alloys, CD, 12 Months MOT p/x to clear	£4495	na
06 Reg	Volkswagen POLO 1.2 S SE Blue, AC, Alloys, CD, FSH	£4495	£29

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CABRIOLET  
£5995  
or £38 wk

08 Reg  
ZAFIRA  
Life  
£6195  
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07 Reg  
FOCUS  
TDCI  
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**LOST**  
Sunday, September 25, black and white male cat, answers to the name of Junior, George Street, Ettingshall. Straight haired, wearing red collar. Very timid.  
01902 409930 / 07732 089974.  
**LOST**—Tortoiseshell Cat, since September 15, Penfields Area, Daisy, very timid, microchipped. 01902 364094 eve or weekends.  
**LOST**—Yorkshire Terrier, Wimbourn Road, Witon, on Thursday afternoon, September 29.  
01902 827215 / 07849 065061.

## Religious Notices

### Christadelphian

**BIBLE TEACHINGS.** What is resurrection? October 9 at 6pm The Community Centre, High Street, Kingswinford. Or write to The Christadelphians, FREEPOST WV10 101 Kingswinford DY8 9BB for free information pack or ring 01364 278585 for recorded message.

## personal

**WOLVERHAMPTON 01902 811 899**  
Call expert advice Stephen Baren for a free confidential discussion either through the Midland

**A GOALKEEPING SCHOOL** has places available, for ages 5 years up to 17 years. 07778 145597.

**ARE YOU LOOKING** To fill those few spare hours? Dudley Hospital Radio are looking for volunteers to walk the ward's and collect record requests from the patients at Russell's Hall Hospital, Dudley. We are looking for daytime and evening volunteers, approx 3 hrs per week, minimum age 21 years. For more info contact us on 01354 234222, e-mail: studio@dudleyhospitalradio.co.uk or write to us at Dudley Hospital Radio, Russell's Hall Hospital, Dudley, DY1 2HQ.  
www.dudleyhospitalradio.co.uk

**BREWOLD J.E.C. UNDER 15'S**  
Are looking for players to strengthen squad.

Can you commit to training once a week and to playing Sunday afternoons.

Contact Andy 07595 652356 or Paul 07740 484800.

## DECENT LOVING HARD WORKING MALE

Late 40's, considered attractive, 6ft, shaven head and blue eyes. No ties. W.L.T.M. genuine, honest, loving female for loving tender relationship.

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All positions considered for a well run, Wolverhampton Sunday Morning Adult Team. Short of a few pieces of the jigsaw, to be serious contenders. Must be reliable and committed.  
If interested call me on 07702 538835.

**GENTLEMAN, 56**  
Very smart looking, likes sport, eating out and holidays seeks lady, slim, 50-60, groom preferred and car driver, Dudley area.  
Box Number P17320, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

**GENTLEMAN, LATE 50'S**  
Who lives on his own, with his own business, seeking a lady 40+, for a long term relationship, genuine replies only.  
Box Number P17314, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

**HOLY TRINITY RC SCHOOL, BILSTON**  
Do you remember the large shiny wooden horse in class-infants. I attended the school from 1950-60, we all loved the horse, it would be great to see it back in its rightful place, forming part of the school's history now the old school's hall decorating is complete. A marble was in the hole where the tail never was all the time I went to the school. If you have any information please write to:  
Box Number P17329, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

**KIND, ROMANTIC MALE**  
Sixty-seven, seeking Female 50-55 to talk maybe more.  
Box Number C17335, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

**MALE 60'S**  
Non smoker, slim build, W.L.T.M. honest, genuine lady for holidays and possible relationship. Age 50-55, unimportant. Stourbridge area.  
Box Number P17316, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

## OLD SWINFORD YOUTHS

Under 12's require 2 players to strengthen squad for 11-a-side, (School year 7). 14 years Coaching Experience, level 1 and 2 Coaching Badge. Call Ben 01384 831002 or Tom on 07900 001274.

**OLYMPIC PARK AND GREENWICH TOUR**  
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Wishes to meet other ladies for Friendship, nights out and shopping trips.  
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Good job, OHAC, enjoys weekends away, social drinks and eating out, GSOH, seeks presentable lady with similar outlook.  
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## items for sale

**BOILER.** Worcester Greenstar 24ri condensing boiler, installed Dec 2008, last serviced Feb 2011, genuine reason for sale. £200 ono. 07853 900506.

**COMPLETE OAK KITCHEN.**  
Self cleaning dble oven, dble bowl stainless steel sink. £600 ono. 01746 712406 / 07805 724573.  
**CORRUGATED** roofing sheets Also tile effect / box profile / curved and z purlins.  
Hornsey Steels 01547 530419

**SENTIENT CCTV.** four colour, weatherproof cameras, plus digital video recorder with 160gb hard drive, £200. 01902 743923.

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1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.

2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.

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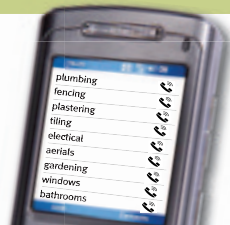




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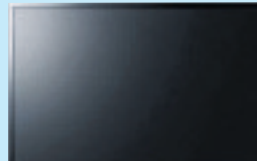


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# sport

## Home, sweet home with double wins

### HALESOWEN TOWN 1 DIDCOT TOWN 0

HALESOWEN eased into fourth place with their second home win in four days thanks to Lee Chilton's strike two minutes from time.

Before his intervention, the game appeared to be heading for a disappointing draw with hard-working Didcot impressing under the guidance of new boss Dave Mudge.

The Yeltz only created two real chances in the first half with visiting goalkeeper Jon Beames making a good save from Justin Nisbett's fine solo run and shot.

The lively Nisbett then delivered an excellent

cross for Chilton at the far post but Beames did well to turn the ball away for a corner.

A drab second half had little goalmouth action until Didcot's Joss Millar attempted a 67th minute long range weak shot and Naveed Arshad curled a free kick past the post for Halesowen. The Yeltz introduced Nathan Jackson with 20 minutes remaining in an urgent attempt to instil more of a threat.

Chilton had a penalty appeal turned down and then Miller skipped past several challenges for Didcot before his shot was blocked by keeper Paul Evans. The Railwaymen's resilience was

finally broken in the 88th minute when Jackson set Nisbett free down the left and he cleverly beat his marker before squaring the ball for Chilton to fire home from close range.

In the fourth minute of stoppage time Chilton set Nisbett free but his effort was cleared.

**HALESOWEN TOWN 3 THATCHAM TOWN 0**  
On Saturday two injury time goals from Nisbett and Arshad completed an impressive Halesowen victory against previously unbeaten Thatcham. Captain Gavin Saunders had given the Yeltz the lead on 71 minutes with a powerful header.



No stopping him – above, hooker Jordan Page dives over to score; hand-off – left, star man Jim Jenner on the run and preparation – right, scrum-half Tommy Richardson waits to feed the scrum



## Late yellow card is decisive despite Saxons' three tries

### STOURBRIDGE SAXONS 20 BLACKHEATH 25

STOURBRIDGE fell to a narrow defeat at the hands of Blackheath, for whom scrum dominance proved the crucial factor.

The Londoners' stalwart props Des Brett and Simon Legg gave the Saxons a torrid afternoon in the set-piece, forcing countless penalties, plus a match-clinching sin-binning and penalty try.

Despite this, Stourbridge, who led by two points with nine minutes remaining, take plenty of positives into next week's tough trip to unbeaten Ealing.

Neil Mitchell's team scored three excellent

tries, and with Jim Jenner and Matt Williams to the fore, looked dangerous every time they strung a series of phases together.

The visitors broke the deadlock on eight minutes when Zimbabwean centre Sean Moan's outside break released James Stephenson and the speedy winger cut inside the cover to touch down.

Stour's injury-hit campaign then suffered another blow at the end of the opening quarter when their former Blackheath hooker Liam Wordley was forced from the fray.

Visiting fly half Sam Windsor kicked a brace of easy penalties before the interval, but two

fine home tries ensured it was the Saxons who had the momentum going into the break.

After replacement Jordan Page got on the end of Williams' long pass to open the Saxons' account, the left winger dummied over himself following Jenner's latest surging break.

Stourbridge dominated the third quarter, but crucially had only a Woodrow penalty to show for their efforts, before Blackheath's excellent full back Mike Canty chipped precisely into the arms of centre Richard Lankshear, who went behind the posts for a converted score.

The lead changed hands for a third time in five minutes when Saxons' winger Nathan

Bressington touched down his fourth try of the season.

This score owed everything to Tom Richardson's quick tap, which caught the visitors napping as they anticipated a kick at goal after Sam Robinson's charge-down forced a close-range penalty.

The pivotal moment of an absorbing second half arrived nine minutes from time.

Referee Andrew Jackson yellow-carded Stour tight head Andi Lawrence for repeated scrum infringements, and when another set-piece followed, the visitors' eighth won a match-clinching penalty try with a powerful surge.

## Forwards told: Don't sulk but get tough

STOURBRIDGE Saxons' Director of Rugby, Neil Mitchell, has issued a stark warning to his under-performing front five ahead of this week's visit to unbeaten Ealing Trailfinders.

Mitchell and Saxons' forwards coach Chris Fortey, were both renowned for their direct methods as players, and they have adopted a similarly forthright approach with their charges following last week's disappointing home defeat by Blackheath.

Mitchell said: "We lost last week's game because we were bullied at the scrummage by Blackheath props Des Brett and Simon Legg.

"They are both experienced, powerful scrummagers, but I was particularly upset by our failure to front up.

"We conceded half a dozen penalties in the scrum and did nothing about it other than sulk. Opposition are exposing weakness up front, and it has got to stop.

"At training on Tuesday Chris and I addressed the issues with the forwards, focussing largely on the front five.

"I have heard all sorts of excuses from the players, but ultimately they have to take accountability for and ownership of their actions, when faced with this kind of situation.

### Reputation

"Chris and myself are in total agreement about this, we are both old-school forwards, and are very disappointed that our pack failed to respond to being repeatedly outfoxed at scrum engagement.

"They are not taking enough responsibility – no player has approached me, and held his hands up and saying 'sorry boss, it won't happen again'.

"In their situation, if I had a reputation as being regarded as a weak link amongst my peers, I wouldn't sleep at night.

"If we don't front up, it will be a very long season. There are 24 games to go, and it is a very tight league this year, so although we have eight points from six games, which is poor, if we can sort this issue, I am confident we are not going to be in the relegation battle."

Mitchell hopes veteran prop Adam Sturdy, who has battled a long-term knee injury, will be available for selection.

Powerhouse centre Ben Barkley is also likely to return to the starting XV, after missing two games with injury.

## Girls get packing to raise club funds

A GIRLS' football team has thanked shoppers for their generosity after money was raised for much-needed football equipment. Withmoor Girls Under 14's held a bag pack at Sainsbury's in Amblecote, raising £504.93 towards trackuits and equipment.

Manager Warren Jennens said: "The girls really enjoyed their day and we were overwhelmed by the customers' generosity. Special thanks to the store manager and all the checkout staff." Sainsbury's manager Vernon Dix said: "We were happy to help."

Any girl interested in playing should contact Mr Jennens on 07944 337673.

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# Drake back with hat-trick

### STOURBRIDGE 5 BANBURY UNITED 0

A HAT-TRICK from Aaron Drake on his first league start of the campaign helped the Glassboys to another home victory.

It enabled Gary Hackett's men to climb to second in the Evo-stik League Southern Premier Division.

Three goals in the space of 10 second-half minutes put the result beyond doubt after the visitors had put up a credible first-half showing to trail by a single goal at the break.

In the early stages Banbury went closest to finding a goal and it was a

little against the run of play when Stourbridge drew first blood on 22 minutes.

Visiting keeper Andrew Kemp was caught off his line and was beaten by a dipping 25-yard effort from Drake.

Two minutes later the hosts almost doubled their advantage when a left-wing corner from Sean Geddes was pushed away by Kemp under pressure only as far as Paul McCone whose header goalwards was headed off the line by Martin Hutchcox.

The visitors ought to have levelled on 32 minutes as Will Green sent in a

low centre from the right but Simeon Williams poked his shot past the far post.

The Glassboys finished the half well. Sam Rock set up Ryan Rowe in the 36th minute but Kemp blocked his angled low shot.

Two minutes later good work from Rowe enabled Drew Canavan to send over a cross but Drake's header drifted off-target.

Drake was in the thick of the action again moments later as Geddes rolled a quickly taken free-kick up to Rowe. His back-heel allowed Drake

to get in a shot from the left-hand side of the area that Kemp was equal to.

Five minutes after the restart Rock won possession wide on the left and he advanced forwards before finding Drake. He drove in a shot that Kemp saved.

After a six minute delay when one of the assistants suffered an injury and had to be replaced by a qualified official, Stourbridge extended their lead as Leon Broadhurst led a quick counter attack.

The move ended with Rowe slipping the ball through for Drake to

shoot home. He completed his hat-trick after 56 minutes as the visitors defence was again opened up with Geddes playing in Drake, who was left with just the keeper to beat and he coolly slotted his shot past Kemp to make it 3 - 0.

The home side were now on a roll and Canavan added a fourth on 61 minutes with a downward header past Kemp from an Aaron Griffiths left-wing cross.

Sub John Griffin then combined with Drake in the 76th minute before pushing his shot wide. Six minutes later Drake again found Griffin with a pass and he cut in from the left and tried to curl a shot past Kemp, but he made a diving save.

Stourbridge completed the scoring with a fifth goal in the 85th minute as a low James Dyson cross from the right was converted by Rock, who squeezed his low shot past Kemp for his first goal of the season.

## Glassboys' FA Cup match runneth over win joy

### BARWELL 0 STOURBRIDGE 2

SATURDAY's victory in the second qualifying round of the FA Cup had been their finest, most complete performance of the season so far to progress into the next round of the FA Cup.

They controlled the match for long

periods and fully deserved their victory over their fellow Evo-stik League Southern Premier opponents. With better finishing they could have won by a wider margin. The Glassboys bossed the opening 20 minutes with Sean Geddes, returning from suspension, making his mark for the right reasons

with a string of rangy passes. Ryan Rowe fired the Glassboys in-front.

Sam Smith tapped a free-kick to Geddes who sent a testing ball forward that home defender Adam Wykes sliced across the edge of the 18-yard box to the feet of Rowe who coolly buried a low shot past Liam Castle. Stourbridge

made a good start to the second period as they doubled their lead in the 48th minute. Rowe played a short pass inside from the left into the run of Leon Broadhurst, who was tripped by Jai Stanley just inside the area to win a soft penalty. Geddes made no mistake with his spot-kick.

## Junior round-up

### U10 BOYS: CS COLTS WEST 2 STOURBRIDGE FC 1

STOURBRIDGE took the lead in added time in the first half through Josh Faulkner. Colts equalised 10 minutes into the second half and won the game with a penalty in extra time.

**U12A BOYS: WITHTMOOR 1 STOURBRIDGE 2**  
Stourbridge dominated periods of the first half and scored through La Marr Love. Brad Clayton added a second after the break before Withmoor struck an unstoppable shot.

**STOURBRIDGE 3 BUSTLEHOLME ALLSTARS 2**  
A top-of-the-league clash saw

Bustleholme take the lead before goals from Sam Green, Daniel Blunt and Conner Powke made it 3-1 before half-time. Bustleholme pulled one back in the second period.

**U14 BOYS: STOURBRIDGE 5 BURTON COLTS 4**

Burton took advantage of a nervous start by Stourbridge to open the scoring on six minutes. Stourbridge's Liam Smart and Connor Lawrence then gave them the lead before Burton equaliser with the last kick of the first half. The second half saw Burton go 3-2 up before Lawrence equalised and Burton then got a

fourth before Dan Moore and Jordan Siviter put Stour 5-4 up.

**U15 GIRLS: STOURBRIDGE 4 WITHTMOOR 3**

Stourbridge opened with an early Maddison Phillips. Emily Drewett made it 2-0 before a goal just before half time got Withmoor back into the game. Further goals from Phillips and Louise Edgerston ensured that Stourbridge ran out winners but not before two more Withmoor goals.

**U15A BOYS: STOURBRIDGE 2 SHELFIELD HATTRICK 3**

Last season's undefeated champions Shelfield opened the scoring and

George Rogers made a string of fine saves to keep Stour in the game before a Shelfield second. In the second half Stour fought back to 2-2 with goals from Scott Cox and Calvin Campbell before Shelfield took the points with a free kick led to a winner two minutes from the end.

### U15B BOYS: STOURBRIDGE 2 HALESOWEN COLTS 1

This exciting victory gave Stour five wins in a row to keep them top of their division. There were goals from Harry Greatwich and a Adam Brazier penalty.

### U16 NORTH BOYS: STOURBRIDGE 3 POLESWORTH JUNIORS 0

After a slow start Stourbridge opened the scoring through Luke Patton but had to wait to the last 10 minutes of the game before Patton and Johnno McKenzie made it three.

**U18 BOYS: STOURBRIDGE FC 10 BROMSGROVE SPORTING FC 0**

Stourbridge struggling to finish chances before the goals flooded in through Lewis Fearon, five, Nathan Davies, two, and one each for Tom Hout, Callum Woodward and James Messenger. Man of the match was Harvey Swan.



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